

The leading weekly serving the coach industry



HOWES AT THE HELM

Big changes ahead for Citylink

FORD 1984 R1115 DUPLE DOMINANT IV. 53

str., power operated entrance door, tinted side windows, curtains, side lockers, autumn tint moquette, white.

FORD 1983 B1114 PLAXTON PARAMOUNT

200, 49 E-type seats, brown moquette, TELMA retarder, side locker, white+yellow/ orange reliefs.

LEYLAND 1987 TIGER 245 PLAXTON

PARAMOUNT 3200, 12M, 57 str., autumn tint moquette, power door, side lockers, automatic lubrication, white.

LEYLAND 1987 TIGER 260 DUPLE 320

12M, 50 recliners, grey moquette, power door, courier seat, toilet, servery, suspension raise system, white.

DAF 1987 (NOVEMBER) DKFL CAETANO

ALGARVE 12M, 53 recliners, autumn tint moquette, power door, courier seat, curtains, continental door, yellow/brown/orange.

DAF 1986 DKFL DUPLE 340 12M, 53

recliners, grey/orange moquette, power door, curtains, gangway carpet, rear toilet, tinted glass, red/white.

DAF 1984 SB2300 DHS JONCKHEERE

JUBILEE P50 12M, 49 recliners, grey/blue moquette, toilet, water boiler, fridge, wired for T.V. + video, white/duo blue.

DAF 1983 DKFL VAN HOOL ALIZEE-H 12M.

48 recliners, Autumn tint moquette, rear floor mounted toilet, continental entrance door, white/grey/red.

DAF 1983 (AUGUST) SB2300 DHS JONCKHEERE JUBILEE P599 12M, 51

recliners, centre sunken toilet, Webasto heating, fridge, coffee machine, carpet, curtains, T.V.+video wiring, grey/blue moquette trim, white.

QUALITY COACHES

BOVA EX DEMONSTRATOR FUTURA FHD 12.290 INTEGRAL, 51/55 recliners, demountable centre sunken toilet, colour monitor+video, water boiler, carpets Nominal mileage. SPECIAL PRICE £99,750

BOVA 1985 FUTURA FHD 12.280 Integral

12M, 49/53 recliners, red/grey moquette, centre sunken demountable toilet, wired for T.V./video, white+red reliefs.

BOVA 1984 EUROPA III Integral 12M, 49 str., beige/fawn/orange stripe moquette, centre sunken o/s toilet, continental door, wired for

two T.V. monitors+video, drinks machine, Webasto heating, courier seat, carpets, power door, all white

BOVA 1983 EUROPA II Integral 12M, 53 str., red moquette, power door, courier seat. curtains, Webasto, cream/brown/yellow

BOVA 1982 EUROPA II Integral 12M, 53 str.,

red moquette (48 recliners+5 fixed at rear), power entrance door, courier seat, curtains. continental door, white/grey/yellow



Moseley Group of Companies, Derby Road, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 0AH. Telex: 341327 Telefax: (0509) 610814 SCOTLAND (0236) 22445

HEAD OFFICE (0509) 213232

BEDFORD 1986 YNV DUPLE 320 12M, 57 str., power door, grey/yellow moquette, tinted glass, cream/red.

BEDFORD 1985 (DECEMBER) YNV PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200 12M, 55

recliners, grey/red moquette, power entrance door, curtains, side lockers, white/red.

VOLVO 1986 B10M PLAXTON PARAMOUNT

3500 12M, 49 recliners, sunken toilet o/s rear, courier seat, curtains, fridge, water boiler, tinted side windows, beige/blue moquette, white+yellow/orange stripes

VOLVO 1986 B9M PLAXTON PAF AMOUNT

3200, 45 str., brown moquette, power entrance door, all white.

VOLVO 1984 (AUGUST) B10M PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3500 12M, 49 recliners,

beige/red moquette, rear sunken toilet with continental door, driver's berth, courier seat, Webasto heating, TELMA retarder, drinks machine, curtains, tinted double glazing, power entrance door, wired/boxed for T.V./video, silver/blue.

VOLVO 1982 B58 DUPLE DOMINANT IV

12M, 53 recliners, brown moquette, tinted double glazed side windows, curtains, TELMA retarder, air/leaf suspension, automatic chassis lubrication system, cream+brown/ grey reliefs.

VOLVO 1981 B58 PLAXTON SUPREME 12M.

49 recliners, brown moquette, toilet at nearside rear, power entrance door, tinted side windows, curtains, white.

VOLVO 1980 B58 PLAXTON SUPREME

EXPRESS 11M, 53 str., autumn tint moquette, power entrance doors, curtains, white/orange/blue.

VOLVO 1979 (LATE) B58 PLAXTON SUPREME 12M, air/leaf suspension, automatic gearbox, TELMA retarder, 51 recliners, autumn tint moduette, power entrance door, side lockers, all white.

Carlton P.S.V.

STOP PRESSOur fourth refurbished Skyliner is now ready! Re-painted white, in National Express Rapide livery, re-moquetted, re-trimmed, carpets, fully serviced, 71 seats plus rear hostess seat. Additional servery & cool box. Acceptable for Rapide work for a further 5 years. Cherished plates, Mercedes manual. £83,000. Stock No.9021. Further examples available shortly.

NEOPLAN

1988 Neoplan, 77 seats, Gardner engine, ZF Automatic, radio/PA/cassette, TV/video monitor, VHS recorder, toilet, fridge, drinks. Stock No. 0021

1983/4 Neoplan Skyliner, 71-75 seats, Mercs V10 engine, 6 speed ZF gearbox, toilet, fridge, radio/PA, drinks machine. Stock Nos. 9017 to 9023

Well preserved and maintained, very recently remoquetted (blue) and resprayed (white) 1982 SKYLINER (with cherished plates), 71 recliners, Mercedes V10, 6-speed ZF gearbox, toilet, fridge, drinks machine etc. This vehicle has been in regular daily use — a very clean example. Stock No. 0004.

MCW

1984 Cummins L10 4-speed full automatic gearbox, Voith retarder, servery, Frenzel boiler, 71 recliners plus courier, toilet, N/S front door, N/S centre door, orange curtains, MoT Feb '91. Stock No. 0020. Only one left.

VOLVO

1984 Volvo B10M Berkhof Esprite, 53 seater, power door, Webasto, curtains, carpets, radio/PA/cassette, MoT 27.11.90. Stock No.0016.

1983 VOLVO B10M Jonckheere P599, 49 recliners, Telma, coffee machine, MoT

1980 VOLVO B58 Air/Leaf Dominant, 12 metre, 53 seats, 48 recliners, 5 fixed, automatic gearbox, power door, tinted windows, curtains, side lockers, MoT Dec 1990. Stock No. 0012

1980 VOLVO B58 11 metre, 51 seats, Alpha power door, Telma, white livery, red moquette and MoT Nov 90. Stock No. 0014.

1979 VOLVO B58 12 metre, 57 seats (re-moquetted), Alpha power door, side lockers, livery white and MoT Feb 90. Stock No. 0015.

MAN

1982 SR 280, 47 recliners, Sutrak air conditioning, 6 speed gearbox, o/s centre power door, o/s centre sunken toilet, driver's bunk, fridge, drinks machine, tinted double glazed windows, Rollo blinds, courier seat, Webasto and timer, seat back nets, headrest covers, wheel discs, driver's locker. Stock No. 0008

1986 Scania Berkhof Eclipse double deck, 76 seats, toilet, double glazed windows, Telma, coffee machine, livery maroon/white. MoT April 1991.

BEDFORD

1981 Bedford YNT 53 seater Plaxton, side lockers, autumn tint moquette, livery white blue/yellow stripes. Reconditioned engine, new MoT Sept 1991. Stock No.

1980 Bedford PJK, 29 seater, Duple Dom, red, moq, livery white. Stock No. 0007. 1979 Bedford YMT, 53 seater Plaxton, red/cream ext, red moq. Stock No. M9036.

LEYLAND

1982 Leyland Leopard 12 metre Dominant, 51 reclining seats, double glazed, Telma, radio/PA, Bristol dome. MoT Feb 1991. Stock No. 9033.

1982 Leyland Leopard 12 metre Plaxton, 49 seats, semi auto gearbox, toilet, coffee machine, side lockers, new MoT 16.08.91.

1981 Leyland Leopard Duple Dominant, 53 seats, red moquette, livery white, new MoT 23.08.91. Stock No. M9012.

1981 Leyland 11 metre Plaxton, 53 (remoquetted), X'Press, side lockers, grey/red moquette, new MoT 29.08.91. Stock No. 9013.

1981 Leyland 12 metre Plaxton, 49 recliners, cream exterior, Autumn tint moquette, new MoT 29.09.91. Stock No. 9010.

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Coachmart

ISSUE 604

September 6, 1990

- News: Scottish Citylink moves into leisure market; Plaxton launches heavyweight, economy coach; new chassis will lead AVE Berkhof sales drive; Jonckheere wins Deauville P35 orders.
- Fleet Update: Kowloon Canton Railway
 Corporation is staying cool with airconditioned Dennis Dart midibuses; Bristol
 City Line has spent £2.4 million on 29
 Leyland Lynx single-deck buses; Caetano
 Algarves join a Welsh operator's tour
 programme.
- Letters: There's more comment about young drivers and 'copy cat' services; Marksman is given a ticking-off.
- Diary: Mealstop has news of a big opportunity awaiting any operator wishing to go into business across the Atlantic; new Minister for Public Transport Roger Freeman has a high noon appointment with a fearsome opponent...London's traffic blackspots.
- On Target: Marksman reckons traffic area credit account facilities would be a good thing; and says operators need to improve their service to attract more passengers.
- Road Test: Rod Davey gets behind the wheel of a Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme V1 on a 'bucket and spade' trip run by Skills of Nottingham.
- 27 **Toilets:** Details of toilet drop points around the country.
- Licensing & Legal: A driver who lost his job wins his fight for cash; Wilfreda Beehive has its licence cut and is banned from running double deckers following maintenance problems; traffic commissioner tells operator to praise his staff for helping to improve his company's maintenance system.
- **Tourism:** A tour organiser has news of some off-season coach trips to Ireland; the Princess of Wales opens a new London tourist attraction.

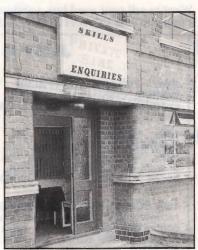


Jonckheere UK managing director Mike Chittock is looking for big sales of the Deauville P35

- see page 9



Bristol City Line has just spent £2.4 million on 29 new Leyland Lynx buses— see page 12



We go behind the scenes of Skills to test a Volvo B58 Plaxton/Supreme V1

- see page 21

COMMENT

NLY 97 shopping days until Christmas... but now is the time to start looking around for a present for your business.

Trouble is, what do you buy the company with everything? It's already got a serviceable school bus, a couple of ten-year-old coaches to carry the pensioners to Skegness, and two shining, three-year-old executives for tours and private hire. What else is there?

By next year, your executives are a year older. One winter on ski work for teenagers, a few private hire trips with the rugby club and the executive tag doesn't quite fit the coach. Now or next spring you are looking at a new vehicle, because that's what the tour companies and the public will inevitably ask for.

And now is a good time to buy. Most dealers are gift-wrapping new coaches with a number of different deals. Some offer deferred interest finance, or good part exchange, even a free holiday for you and the missus. Dealers are friendly, getting friendlier and it's not just because they need your cash.

What dealers also want is a secondhand vehicle they can sell on. There are several things which might attract a dealer to take your coach in preference to another. The manufacturer's label is important. Franchises selling one make of vehicle clearly like to see reasonable secondhand examples of their vehicles. No problem with spares, familiarity in the workshop, and a chance to sell the brand name to the customer on a budget.

There are also encouraging signs that manufacturers are now beginning to build what the operator wants, not what the manufacturers want the operator to buy. And it is doubly encouraging that the manufacturers making the biggest strides in this direction are both British.

Dennis' no-nonense Javelin has been a huge success and now Plaxton has reborn that respected workhorse, the Duple 320, as the budget priced 321. Both vehicles are good, honest coaches and go a long way towards meeting the demands of operators and their customers. Sensibly priced as they are, both deserve to win orders.

A healthy market for new vehicles is in everyone's interests: the paying customer demands them; manufacturers need to build them; dealers need to sell them and, to attract and retain customers, operators need to run them.

Now then, what will you buy for the business this Christmas...?

Stuart Johnson



DEALS THAT WORK



DEPOSIT £20,000 18 MONTHS x £999 42 MONTHS x £1,750 £19,250 BALLOON

DAF MB230 PLAXTON 3500, 49 RECLINING SEATS, PLUS COURIER SEAT, REAR SUNKEN TOILET, CONTINENTAL DOOR, DRIVER'S BUNK, WATER BOILER, WEBASTO HEATER, TELMA, ABS, RADIO/ PA/CASSETTE, FINISHED IN ALL WHITE WITH GREY **CHEVRON MOQUETTE** INTERIOR, M.O.T. MAY 1991 CHOICE OF TWO.



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★ THIS DEAL IS:- Subject to status and subject to vehicles remaining available. Very flexible and can be modified to suit any value of part exchange vehicle.

★ THIS DEAL IS NOT:— An 'Operating Lease' which leaves you with no equity in the vehicle at the end of the lease period.

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- Only a nominal weekly charge is payable if the vehicle remains unsold after 3 weeks.
- A fixed-rate commission (between 5%-10% of selling price), payable only when

1985 SCANIA K112 JONCKHEERE P50, 49 recliners, o/s sunken toilet, o/s centre continental door, driver's bunk, tinted windows, rollo blinds, MoT 1991. Stock No. M102£46,500

JUST A FEW EXAMPLES

OPTARE CITYPACER VOLKS-WAGEN, LT55 engine, 5 speed, manual gearbox, 25 d/p seats, MoT 27.7.91. Price£12,500

LEYLAND TIGER 245 DUPLE CARIBBEAN, 48 recliners, o/s sunken toilet, r/o/s cont door, servery, fridge, driver's bunk, gangway carpet, 3 x TV driver's bunk, gangway carpet, 3 boxes, MoT 26.4.91. Stock No. M009

1984 SCANIA K112 JONCKHEERE P50, 49/51/53 recliners, o/s sunken toilet, o/s centre continental door, driver's bunk, tinted windows, rollo blinds, MoT 1991. Choice of three. Stock Nos. M104, M105 & £41,500 M106. 1983 BOVA EUROPA (DAF 8.25), 44 seats,

Plaxton X'Pre SOLD exterior, blumoquette. SOLD 7. Choice of

exterior, blue

The Bus & Coach Mart, Carlton PSV Sales Ltd, Sandbeck Way, Hellaby, Rotherham, S Yorks S66 8QL Fax: 0709 700007 Telephone: 0709 700600

■SBG SELL-OFF

Citylink to move into leisure

SCOTTISH Citylink's new owner will be halving its dependence on express coaching over the next five years to concentrate on other areas of travel and leisure.

The company - acquired last week by its management /employee buyout team -derives around 90 percent of its turnover from express work but says its plan is to progressively halve this figure.

Managing director Alan Howes says motorway congestion, new electrified rail schemes and cut-price competition have forced the £500,000 company into diversification.

'I can't be specific about our plans for reasons of commercial sensitivity,' said Mr Howes, who led the buyout team. 'But within five years, we want to reduce the proportion of turnover produced by express coaching from 90 percent to 50 percent.

We are not confining ourselves to bus and coach operation. It is unwise to put all our eggs in one basket. We are considering other leisure activities, such as running hotels. The company mission is to move into both travel



Directors Nigel Fortune, Pat Saunders, Guido Crolla and Alan Howes (pictured on the left of our picture) will be leading Scottish Citylink away from express coaching (chairman David Campbell is not shown).

and leisure together.'

Mr Howes said the eight Scottish Bus Group companies and more than a dozen independents under contract to Citylink's express services could feel the benefit, despite the fact that he is not ruling out mileage reductions and the lapsing of contracts.

We have plenty of operators who want to do work for us but too many want to run vehicles at rates we cannot afford to pay,' said Mr Howes.

'Our general aim is to provide a quality service for higher fares, and hence higher rates. The problem has been that the SBG companies starved of investment capital cannot provide new coaches but still have contracts to run.

These and other companies can put their trust in us, but this is a chicken and egg situation. Does the money go into the quality of service now before the premium is charged to the customer, or does the customer pay first?

'We want to pay higher rates but we need the quality. We could even invest jointly in vehicles with operators if the deal is right.'

Mr Howes admitted he had reacted swiftly

to the service, without giving it a chance to show what loadings it would carry.'

But he was anxious to point out that the game plan remained the same: 'Three new Scanias were bought by Lowland, now in private ownership, as an example of a company investing money in coaches on our behalf. I can say that we have reacted to that, and we might have something special to offer Lowland in the near future.'

• Citylink's livery currently a hotch-potch of similar designs in blue and yellow - is to be revamped to a standard pattern in vinyl within the next few months.

■SBG SELL-OFF

to Caledonian Express's

cutting off-peak return fares: 'We had to react

new Edinburgh-

Glasgow service by

Lowland Scottish is in new hands



Douglas Pelling (left), seen taking the keys' of Lowland from STG chairman Ian Irwin, is committed to serving passengers in East Lothian and the Borders.

LOWLAND Scottish has been handed over to its management/employee team making it the first to officially leave the Scottish Bus Group.

Scottish Transport Group chairman Ian Irwin sealed the deal with bid leader Douglas Pelling at Galashiels, congratulating him and the team for their success.

Mr Pelling reaffirmed his commitment to the passengers of East Lothian and the Borders, saying the 70-year history of the company would continue and the partownership by employees would ensure the best possible service.

Meet the new owners

THE Scottish Citylink management buyout team comprises five members, four executive directors and one non-executive chairman.

• David Campbell (46) is chairman and non-executive director of Citylink, also chairman and chief executive of West Independent Newspapers - the largest newspaper independent in Western Scotland. His directorships include Ardrossan Saltcoats, Stevenson Enterprises and Clyde Cablevision Holdings, and he is vice-chairman of Enterprise Ayrshire.

● Alan Howes (43) is managing director of Citylink. He was formerly marketing man for Northern Scottish before moving to Midland Scottish as

operations manager in 1983.

• Guido Crolla (33) is finance director of Citylink. His background is in the computer and engineering industries, having worked in Europe for the Ericsson Group and Ferranti.

• Pat Saunders (43) is retail director. He has held a full-time union post, and has worked in personnel and industrial relations.

• Nigel Fortune (35) is administration and accounting director. The former Lothian Regional Transport employee joined Citylink in 1989.

■NEW CHASSIS

New chassis will lead AVE Berkhof sales drive

AVE BERKHOF's new sales and marketing director David Waterman says the thrust of a new sales drive will be provided by a new chassis for the Excellence body and part exchange facilities.

Mr Waterman - who left VL-owned Yeates after 15 years to join AVE last week - is aiming to sell 25 to 30 Dutch-built Berkhof coaches in the next 12 months, despite speculation over the future of the dealership following the acquisition of the company by the United Bus consortium.

The departure of Peter Rigby earlier this year was followed by discussions between AVE chairman Len Wright and Berkhof to put together a fresh

OBITUARY

DORIS YEATES

MRS DORIS Louise Yeates - wife of WS Yeates, the founder of the Loughboroughbased bus and coach distributors - has died aged 85.

Mrs Yeates met her husband when they both worked for the manufacturers of bus and coach chassis, the Gilford Motor Company.

She also worked alongside him when they established WS Yeates, first in Nottingham in 1928 and later in Loughborough.

Mrs Yeates remained a director of WS Yeates plc, following the acquisition of the bus and coach division by VL Bus and Coach, and always took a keen interest in company business.

look for the dealership.

'For the first time, we are going to take in secondhand vehicles and deal in them,' said Mr Waterman. 'The main selling point of the Excellence is good looks. It is so much better than the rest.'

This, coupled with the

introduction of one or perhaps two new chassis, will push sales up from last year's single figures, he says. Berkhof bodies have previously been most popular on Scania and Volvo B10m chassis.

Len Wright said: 'Because of high

interest rates and fear of recession, the market has turned out to be even more difficult than we predicted. But our long-term aim is to provide British coach operators with an attractive alternative to the products of high-volume manufacturers.'



Len Wright: giving British operators an attractive choice of chassis.

AVE Berkhof: aiming to see up to 30 Dutch-built coaches sold in a year.

■MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Anglo-Egyptian deal is sealed

LONDON Transport's international consultancy has won a two million dollar deal to help revamp the entire bus system of Cairo.

The Egyptian Transport Authority is adopting LTI management plans for three years to cope with the maintenance of 1,500 buses a year in one of the most advanced workshops anywhere in the world.

LTI says it has worked with Egypt for ten years to get the work, which will be undertaken by management from LTI and Irish national bus company CIE, based in Dublin.

BUS DELIVERY

London and Country gets Volvo double-decks

THE first of 36 new Volvo Citybus doubledecks go to Drawlane subsidiary London and Country this month.

The East Lancashirebodied buses, worth £3 million, join 38 similar double-decks and 22 Volvo B10M-chassis coaches already operated by London and Country, which has this year won a significant number of LRT tendered services.

VL Bus and Coach's Bill Russell said the mid-engined Volvo Citybus chassis now commands almost 20 percent of the heavyweight bus market. The L and C buses have a 245 bhp Volvo engine, ZF auto gearbox with integral retarder, and dual doors on the East Lancs body.

BUS ROUTES

Ivan's new Edinburgh service

IVAN Ford's bus company Edinburgh Transport has launched another service in the city but has been told to introduce a minibus service on one of its routes.

The new 333
Traenent-City
Centre service will
be operated by
Ford's Leyland
Nationals but
service 330
Dalkeith-City
Centre has been cut
to operate only as
far as the Asda
Superstore with
minibuses due to
small residential
roads.

Edinburgh
Transport is the
city's newest bus
company, and is a
subsidiary of Ford's
Silver Coach Lines.

Volvo Alexanders' Doncaster debut

SOUTH YORKSHIRE Transport's Doncasterbased Mainline company is to run some of its 12 new Volvo Alexander single-decks on three new routes starting next week (September 10)

SYT is claiming Mainline will be operating the services autonomously, with the 23 vehicles and 50 hand-picked staff providing top-quality bussing under the watchful eye of Mainline manager Ernie Slater. The services were launched at Doncaster Racecourse last Monday by the local Mayor, Jack Meredith.

■NEW COACH

Plaxton targets small operators

PLAXTON has launched a new Scarborough-built coach onto the market and the Duple 320-based vehicle has been married to the Leyland Tiger chassis exclusively for VL's Yeates Bus and Coach sales outlet.

The newly-tagged 321, built on a Tiger 250 or 290 heavyweight chassis, is the first of the Duple designs to be made at Scarborough, and sold at a competitive price.

Launching the Yeates Tiger 321 SE, Yeates sales director Tony Harvey said: This is a new high-quality, highspecification all British coach, offered at a low price.'

Aimed at the small operator requiring a budget-priced



Plaxton sales planning director John Torr (left) and Tony Harvey: big hopes for low-cost 321.

heavyweight coach, prices start at £88,500 with Cummins 250 bhp engine and six speed ZF manual gearbox. However, the majority of the first batch have 290 bhp at £91,500.

Mr Harvey explained: 'We can offer a special price through our unique position in the Volvo group.'

The 321 is built using Duple 320 jigs. External appearance remains unchanged apart from Plaxton side and wheelarch mouldings.

However, the interior is pure Plaxton with 53 Paramount Remax reclining seats and courier seat as standard. Side tinted double-glazing, full draw curtains, centre gangway carpet, heated driver's mirrors and Tempo 100 requirements are also standard.

This highly competitive package provides a direct challenge to the Dennis Javelin, Scania K93 and DAF SB2300.



Yeates Tiger 321 SE: high quality, low cost, British coach.

■COMPANY PROFITS

Plaxton profits up following disposals

PLAXTON'S interim results for the six months ending on June 30 show Britain's major coach builder has increased profits from £3.7 million to £5.2 million - but that includes a surplus of £2.44 million from business disposals.

Plaxton's Roadlease leasing finance subsidiary is to be integrated with its coach and motor divisions. The company's motor division closed three loss-making dealerships and sold two other going concerns.

Holding high vehicle stocks has meant

Plaxton has been hit hard by high interest rates. Net interest payments increased from £1.95 million in the same six months of 1989 to £2.67 million this period.

'The coach and bus division has experienced unexpectedly difficult trading conditions with the high interest rate climate causing severe price competition,' said Mr Matthews. He added 'The downturn has coincided with unusually high vehicle stocks inherited from last year's Duple and Arlington acquistions.

'The level of stocks is reflected in the sharply-

increased interest cost shown in the division's accounts. Stocks are reducing but market conditions are not easing and it may be some time before we see an improvement.'

Plaxton is expecting 1990 results to be below those of 1989, but hopes to maintain its share dividend as long as the trading environment does not deteriorate.

'A brand new range of city bus vehicles is to be introduced during the early part of next year which will reduce our present reliance on the UK luxury coach market,' said Mr Matthews.

■COMPANY PROFITS



Wallace Arnold's parent company has recorded £1.35 million pre-tax profits for the six months ending June 30, 1990

Wallace Arnold's parent company enjoys record profits

WALLACE Arnold parent company, Barr & Wallace Arnold Trust, has reported record pre-tax profits of £1.35 million for the six months ended June 30 1990 - an increase of nine percent. Turnover in the same period rose by 19 percent to £120.6 million.

However, most of the increase in profits came from the company's motor distribution division - up by more than 40 percent from £945,000 to £1.33 million.

The profits of the leisure and holidays division, which includes the Wallace Arnold coach operation, went up by only 2.6 percent from £421,000 to £432.000.

Chairman Malcolm
Barr described the
leisure and holidays
division result as
'creditable' and said the
British holidays
business in particular
remained a strong
market.

The company's fuel distribution division contributed £185,000 in pre-tax profits - up from £101,000 - in the first six months of 1989.

The final pre-tax profit figure includes a £596,000 central overhead charge.

GMB's £6 million gross loss

GREATER Manchester Buses has announced an ordinary trading surplus of £600,000 for 1989 but an overall gross loss of more than £6 million.

The profit on turnover was offset by massive reorganisation costs and a £1.28 million bill for new ticket machines but GMB's chair Val Stevens is promising viability for the future. She said: 'I firmly

She said: I firmly believe that in the interests of the travelling public, the prime requirement is now for a period of stability and concentration on the provision of service.'

In the annual report for the year ending October 31, 1989, Mrs Stevens said the GMB consortium's success in securing the Metrolink project - the first new Light Rail Transit (LRT) scheme to be built in Britain - would carry Manchester's public transport hopes.

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or Dave Broad (home) (0634) 711178

CRYSTALS' OWN CONVERSIONS

LEYLAND DAF, diesel, 5-speed, 16 high back moquette seats, high-roof, radio/cassette, 4 speakers, full soft trim, baggage racks, saloon heater, quad-vents, tinted windows. £17,250.

Turbo Diesel available.

Air Suspension available.

TALBOT EXPRESS DIESEL, 15 seater, high back moquette seats, radio/cassette, 4 speakers, full soft trim, luggage racks, saloon heater, quadvents. £15,250.

MERCEDES 609D, 20-26 high back moquette seats on tracking, full soft trim, radio/cassette, 4 speakers, luggage racks, saloon heaters, quadvents, tinted windows. £27,750.

MERCEDES 609 D AUTOMATIC SWB, 20 seater, high spec, on tracking, red exterior, red interior, Crystal conversion, coach rear end. £23,950.

FORD TRANSIT DIESEL, 16 seater, low back moquette seats, radio/cassette, saloon heater, quad-vents. £15,950.

CITROEN 25, diesel, 12 moquette seats, soft trim, radio. £9,950

SECOND HAND VEHICLES

FORD TRANSIT, Derv, 20 seater, Dormobile/Crystal conversion. New high spec conversion, power door. 1st reg June '90 - COF - ready mid August. £19,950

MERCEDES 609D, 26 seater, PMT conversion, white with red interior. Due in August 6th. 1st reg 13/7/90. Annual Oct '90. £17,950

FORD TRANSIT, Derv, 20 seater, Advance/Crystal conversion, semi high back seats, white with blue/grey interior. 1st reg 7/8/87. Annual 1 year. £13,950

FREIGHT ROVER 350, diesel, 16 high back moquette seats, high roof, white with red interior, C.D. conversion, hi spec. 1st reg 1/8/87. Annual June '91. £10,950

MERCEDES 508D, 19 high back moquette seats, Bristol Dome, boot, diesel, tacho. 1st reg 23/2/83. Annual July '91. £9,950

FREIGHT ROVER 350, diesel, 18 moquette bus seats, high roof, soft trim. 1st reg 1/8/87. Annual June '91. £9,950

FREIGHT ROVER SHERPA, 16 + 5 standees, moquette bus seats, white/red/blue exterior, power door, diesel, Dormobile conversion, tacho, Autumn interior. 1st reg 1/10/86. Annual Jan '91. £9,950

SHERPA 350 DIESEL, 16 moquette seats, high roof, Leith conversion, radio, tacho. 1st reg 1/1/86. Feb '91. £8,950

FREIGHT ROVER SHERPA DIESEL, 16 high back moquette seats, Scotts conversion, white with blue line exterior, brown interior, radio, tacho, window curtains. 1st reg 17/3/86. Annual April '91. £8,950

TALBOT EXPRESS, Derv, 14 seater, CD conversion, white/brown with Autumn interior. 1st reg 30/9/87. Annual November '90. £8,450.

FORD TRANSIT, 16 seater diesel O/D Dormobile, high back moquette seats, white/red/blue exterior, tacho. 1st reg 1/11/84. Annual 28/2/91. £6,950.

FORD TRANSIT, 16 seater diesel, O/D Dormobile, high back moquette seats, white/red/blue exterior, tacho. 1st reg 1/11/84. Annual April '91. £6,950

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■COACH SALES

Jonckheere wins Deauville orders

JONCKHEERE UK has picked-up orders for its Deauville P35 35/37-seater mounted on the MAN 10.180 and is predicting up to 20 sales in the first year.

The vehicle - which sees the company entering the medium capacity coach market - has undergone minor alterations since being road tested in *Coachmart* (Issue 601, August 16).

Jonckheere UK
managing director Mike
Chittock said at the
company's three-day
publicity event last
week: 'We are quite
encouraged by the initial
operator response to our
10.180 build and have
four vehicle orders
already in the pipeline.'

He doesn't see the market for such highclass touring midicoaches being very large: 'The medium capacity market is traditionally small,



Looking for up to 20 Deauville P35 sales in a year: Jonckheere coach sales executive Barry McCrae, managing director Mike Chittock and coach sales manager Arthur Humphries.

probably because of the cost per seat, which is high. But there is a market.'

Minor criticisms of the MAN 10.180/Jonckheere Deauville P35 made in the Coachmart road test had been attended to on the UK prototype demonstrator. The gearshift for the ZF S 6 36 has been re-located in an improved ergonomic

position, it has been fitted with a speed limiter and a radio/PA/cassette has been installed.

There was no full-size MAN 16.290/Jonckheere at the showing as all have been sold, with more than 20 delivered in the UK.

We are very pleased both with the customer reaction to the MAN 16.290 and the MAN back-up from Swindon,' said Mr Chittock. 'MAN is going to become an important UK market competitor, as well as being an important European manufacturer.'

Jonckheere UK took the opportunity to show operators what else was available from its base at Brackmills Industrial Estate, Northampton.

Another new vehicle on show was the Volvo B10M GL/Jonckheere P599 Deauville with 51 Vogel 3000 reclining seats and a ZF 6 90 gearshift and its three available front line secondhand vehicles were also displayed: a DAF MB 230 DKFL/Jonckheere P50 Jubilee with 48 Fainsa Miami recliners; a Volvo B10M GL/Caetano Algarve with 49/53 recliners; and a Scania BR116/Jonckheere Burmuda.

Mr Chittock said:
'Although we're an
exception with low
secondhand and new
vehicle stocks, the
industry as a whole is
probably overstocked.
There's a widespread
view the going's going to
be quite difficult at least
over the next year.'

■ C O A C H

Chinese celebratation ends Excelsior trip

EXCELSIOR'S Silk Route trip to Beijing has ended in a Chinese banquet after 45 days travelling and 10,000 miles on the road.

The journey took customers who, at around £4,000 a time, raised money for charity through Cologne, Berlin, Warsaw, Moscow, Baku, Alama Ata, Urumqui, Dunhuang, Sian and finally into the Chinese capital.

The Volvo B10M Plaxton 3500 hit several problems on the way, but made it to Beijing on schedule. It was delayed by sandstorms in the Gobi Desert, shipping problems on the Caspian Sea and treacherous roads. The latest and last major problem, a landslide, saw passengers go on by train while the coach waited two days for a path to be cleared.

More obstacles such as blocked roads and jack-knifed lorries were cleared while the Chinese people watched in awe of the vehicle as coaches are rarely seen in the Chinese countryside. The entrance of the coach into Tianenmen Square was followed by a welcome from TV, radio and the tourist office.

NEW BODY

Body beautiful

PLAXTON'S French subsidiary Carrosserie Lorraine has launched a new streamlined high-floor coach body on its home market.

The Lorraine 300 GTS II is said to achieve better fuel economy due to its smooth styling, despite the potent 304 bhp engine mounted in the Iveco-chassis test model.

In common with many French coaches, the Lorraine 300 GTS II



has air-conditioning, doubleglazed frame-mounted windows, and a fold-down automatic step on the passenger door.

Among its best features, according to French road testers, are its quietness, roadholding and comfort.

FIXTURES

Flying the transport flag

THE RAF Museum at Hendon hosts The Transport Roadshow on September 25. The 10am to 4pm show features exhibitions by fuel management system suppliers and is supported by the CIT. Tickets and information are from Christine, Tel:0254 682111.



■ BRIEFS

 SCANIA's plans to standardise catalytic converters on bus chassis may be governed by the supply of low-sulphur diesel.

Factory-fitted catalysts will be available from 1991 but Scania says operators will be asked to prove they can source and use the special fuel, since some current diesels can damage the catalytic box.

Most oil companies will be able to supply low-sulphur diesel by 1991.

• NEWCASTLE-based Busways is mixing its fleet by ordering ten Northern Counties-bodied Olympians... having only a fortnight ago ordered ten Alexander-bodied Scania N113DRB double-decks.

The new order is for DiPTAC-equipped vehicles with assault screens and vandal-proof windows.

● VISCOUNT Travel in Peterborough has sold its open-top Bristol FLF 'The Pride of Peterborough' to sister coach company Premier Travel Services but holds on to its Bristol FS6G and FLF6G - both veterans with a million miles clocked up.

The buses, bodied by the old Eastern Coachworks at Lowestoft, were built in 1964 and 1966.

- SOLENT Blue Line's twoman buses operating in Southampton have produced an unexpected spin-off. The 22 bus conductors used on the city's routes have been moving on to driving as soon as vacancies come up. SBL trains them first for minibuses then puts them through the PSV test.
- EAST Yorkshire Motor Services has taken delivery of its six Northern Countiesbodied 'stretched' Leyland Olympians for Hull services.

The buses, worth £600,000, are 85-seaters, and DiPTAC equipped.

MINIBUS

Tax changes should help the handicapped

TAX rules which could have ruined minibus operator Linley's of Lymm may be relaxed to help both operators and the handicapped.

Linley's found itself saddled with a £27,000 tax bill for a dozen vehicles because they were not carrying the minimum 12 seats... and so came under private car VAT and road tax laws (Coachmart 601, August 16).

After wrangling with Customs and Excise officials - who had threatened to impound Linley's vehicles if the bill was not paid within 10 days - proprietor Brian Linley managed to get the tax payable down to £1,500, payable for three vehicles which, although they could accept 12 seats, were not designed for 12.

'The frustrating thing is that Brian Linley is having to pay the bill to establish a legal precedent, and getting customs men to change the way they enforce the ruling,' said the firm's transport consultant John Taylor.

He said there are three local authorities in Greater Manchester facing bills of around £250,000 but these charges had been frozen while Linley's case was sorted out.

The tax laws interpreted in the original way would have meant car tax of 10 percent of the dealer cost of the vehicle and VAT of 15 percent which would not be reclaimable for business purposes.

The relaxation proposed by senior officials in the head policy section of Customs and Excise will mean vehicles will be judged on maximum capacity, though there will be stringent qualifications, say transport consultants Taylor and Lightfoot.

The removal of seats for wheelchair tracking may have to be accompanied by a permanent access for disabled passengers - tail lifts, for instance. And seats removed for storage may have to be available for inspection by tax officers.

Transport consultants Taylor and Lightfoot can be contacted on 061 225 3141.

■MANUFACTURING

Rapier is a cut above the rest

ONE of Britain's smallest minibus builders, Rapier Coachbuilding of Doncaster, has achieved British Standards' 5750 manufacturing certification.

The Yorkshire firm, which employs just 15 workers, is hoping the BSI kitemark will help it get orders in 1992 when trade barriers in Europe are lifted, and will reassure operators that its Mercedes-based minibuses are built to a consistent standard.

Rapier's effort to get the British Standard started a year ago when inspectors began monitoring quality of its work from



Left to right: Rapier partners David Moseley and John Knight celebrate the 'red letter day' with mayor and mayoress John and Pat Meredith.

administration down to stores, and ended when local mayor John Meredith presented the BSI certificate.

'We are delighted to get the BSI recognition,' said

partners John Knight and David Moseley. 'This is a red letter day.'

Mr Knight says there may come a day when chassis and chassis-cab suppliers insist on coachbuilders having the 5750 standard to maintain a reputation for quality.

The minibus is a 26seat coach-standard conversion based on the Mercedes 609D.

The conversion cost around £9,000, but higher specification vehicles are being built and Rapier says it is hoping for orders from the MoD and government departments.

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News Editor - Mark Williams
Staff Writers - Rod Davey,

Mike Morgan Production Editor - Andrew Hurst Publishing Director - Ian Griffin
Group Display Sales Manager - Iain Blackhall;
Deputy Group Display Manager - Lynn Cowley;
Group Classified Sales Manager - Stephen Skinner;
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FLEET UPDATE

You've been buying...You've been buying...You've been buying...You've

Armchair picks-up Olympians



A SUCCESSFUL tender for London Regional Transport's route 260 has brought with it an order for 12 Leyland Olympian double-deck buses from Brentford-based Armchair Coaches.

'This is our first experience of double-deck operation,' said managing director Simon Newman. 'We have chosen the combination of Leyland Olympians with Alexander bodywork on the recommendation of other operators.'

All 9.6 metres long with low height Alexander 'R' type single door bodies, the vehicles have 77 seats, Cummins L10.180 engines, ZF HP500 automatic gearbox, and are fitted with LRT's schedule for mobility impaired passengers.

In addition to Plaxton

In addition to Plaxton Sales supplying the vehicles, Plaxton subsidiary Roadlease Finance provided a lease package for six of the buses.

Since winning this route, Armchair has won the LRT route 65 between Ealing and Kingston, and has gained considerable experience running tendered services for both Hertfordshire and Surrey county councils.

Formed in 1960, Armchair has been a member of the EH Mundy group since 1968.

Darts stay cool in Kowloon



KEEPING cool in Kowloon are air-conditioned Dennis Dart midibuses - on evaluation for the Kowloon Canton Railway Corporation and other operators.

Dennis is hopeful of winning the order, as the vehicles are to be used as feeders for the Colony's light railway transit system. Any order would put Hong Kong's imports of Dennis buses to more than 1,500. For Kowloon Motor Bus and China Motor Bus already operate hundreds of tri-axle Dennis Dragon and Condor double deckers - along with Dominators, Jubilants and Falcon coaches.

It is being assessed on

routes already served by both 24-seater minibuses and MkII Metrobuses.

The railway company's divisional manager David Hassey said: 'We expect the Dennis Dart to prove a hot favourite here and are delighted to have the first fully air-conditioned Dart for evaluation.'

£2.4 million Leyland Lynx order

BADGERLINE subsidiary Bristol City Line has invested £2.4 million on 29 brand new Leyland Lynx single-deck buses.

Part of the company's fleet renewal programme, they replace 17 Leyland Nationals and 12 Bristol VRT double-

Specification includes many DIPTAC features and the very latest technology with Bright Tech electronic destination equipment.

There are route number and destination displays on the front and side as well as a number at the rear of the vehicle. City Line is proud it has the largest fleet to date fitted with this destination gear.

Other features include split level passenger steps with saw-toothed edgings, extra overhead lighting in the entrance area, a gently sloping aisle covered with non-slip material, palm-operated bell-pushes, 'bus stopping' sign, improved convector heaters and an improved ride with full air suspension.

As well as better engine sound proofing and moquette upholstered seating, deeper windows enhance the passengers' view.

Recently added features include improvements to handrails and a repositioned luggage pen. Brightly coloured, non-slip handrails have been re-positioned to allow passengers to hold at least one horizontal or vertical handrail at all times. The larger luggage pen has been relocated making it easier for clients to store their shopping and other effects.

'Since we first introduced the Lynx last year we've heard a lot of nice things from disabled and elderly customers who like the extra features,' said City Line's marketing manager Vernon Bettison. 'This second delivery underlines our commitment to providing a first class service to all passengers using our network.'

DIPTAC vice chairman Claudia Flanders added: 'Features like those introduced by City Line make journeys easier and more pleasant for all concerned, and not just those customers who are elderly or have disabilities. This is especially so for people with shopping, baby buggies and small children.'

City Line now has a total of 62 Leyland Lynx single-deck buses in service, representing an investment of over £5 million.



FLEET UPDATE

been buying...You've been buying...You've been buying...You've

West Coast pleased with purchase

WEST Coast Motors has a new red Beaver out and about in South Argyll, working a five-year contract for Strathclyde Regional Council.

It is running a tendered service between Ardrishaig and Lochgilphead.

The company operates a number of local services in the area and was sceptical about the viability of the route. But a trial service last year, using used Reeve Burgess-bodied Mercedes, proved popular - especially with young mothers and senior citizens.

First run at the request of local people living in Lochgilphead's growing housing estates, it turned out it was not commercially viable. But the council saw the community's need, put out a tender, and West Coast won it.

Managing director Willaim Craig liked the Reeve Burgess and Mercedes combination, especially on the area's



hilly roads, and stuck with it when he ordered the bus, mounted on a Mercedes 709D, from Charles Middleton at Plaxton Sales.

He said: 'It has everything we wantincluding a low step, wide entrance and a luggage pen.'

It has 25 seats because the bus will be so busy on its local service there will be no time for private hire work.

West Coast was in *Coachmart's* news pages recently when it donated a coach to carry church musicians on a tour of Scotland.

Founded in 1926, the company runs more than 30 vehicles from its depots in Campbeltown and Ardrishaig - most of them full-sized Volvos, Leylands and Bedfords finished in the company's red, dark red and cream livery.

Optimos are little, but they're luxurious



'OUR Caetano Optimo 21seater coaches are just as luxurious as our full sized coaches,' says Oxford-based Heyfordian's sales manager Brian Kirton.

Heyfordian points out in its marketing literature for clients: 'We have introduced the Caetano Optimo for smaller groups, a coach unlike converted vans and trucks which is especially designed to carry people.'

designed to carry people.'
This operator of more than 60 coaches in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire likes the vehicle's unique design and independent front suspension, which it says combine to provide an outstandingly smooth ride.

The company has acquired two such vehicles, one of which is pictured.



Algarves join Saga holiday programme

WILLIAMS Coaches of Brecon in Powys has taken delivery of two Caetano Algarves.

Mounted on DAF SB3000 DKV with rear mounted engines, the vehicles feature 49/53 recliners, courier seat, power plug door with peage window and a centre sunken demountable toilet with a continental door.

There is also a driver's berth, 'fridge, tinted side windows, full draw curtains and a Blaupunkt radio/PA/cassette audio system.

Operations manager Wynford Reece said: 'We are using the vehicles on Saga Holidays' extensive tour programme, including work in the English Lakes, Bavaria and the Austrian Tyrol.

'We chose the Algarves because we get good value for money at this level of specification. Pricewise, we look for a good engine combined with a high specification vehicle.'

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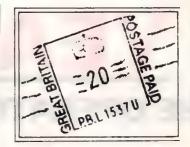
From T J Rowland

SIR

In reply to the letters from Carole Clarke and Kim Cutwell (Coachmart, August 9) regarding my letter (Coachmart, July 26). I think they were both misled as part of my letter was not printed in which I quoted that I read with dismay of the recent coach accident in France where a large and well known company employed a 23-year-old driver on a 70-seater coach on the continent.

First I would ask Carole and Kim to contact insurance companies as to why they put a much higher premium on drivers under 25 years of age, then they will get the answer.

Next when Carole said I was another self-acclaimed experienced operator I would like to point out to her that I was driving a coach in the RAF when I was 18 years old, then was employed by a major bus company where one had to drive a service bus for at least five years before stepping into the driving seat of a coach and also take a test



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The Editor is always pleased to receive letters for publication in Coachmart and will, if requested, publish these anonymously. But please attach your name and address for our own information.

for continental work.

Also, as an operator, I was one of the very few small firms to hold tour licences when they had to be applied for and granted only on merit, not like today's free for all.

In answer to Kim's letter, I did not quote that any young drivers were breaking the law in any way, but as you have mentioned it, I can assure you that when I am driving on the continent on a tour at the permitted speed, many

British coaches on so called tours with young and older drivers pass me. They call them tours but many of them are express services going from A to B as quick as possible on a journey where I have an overnight stop.

Finally, I wish Carole and Kim the best of luck in today's rat race. I am glad I have not many years left to do as you have both quoted that you have had no accidents or convictions. I would hope not in your short time as operators. If you can still say that after 20 years, then that will be the time to sing your praises.

T J ROWLAND TERRY'S TRAVEL OSPRINGE FAVERSHAM KENT

'Copy cat' services: a clarification

From Bob Dudley

SIR

Richard Leadbetter seems to have missed the point I made in my letter which was published in *Coachmart* on August 2. None of the examples he has quoted would be considered 'copy cat' registrations.

Our own experience with

Luton and District Buses is that they have copied our routes yard by yard, operating only at the times and on the days we operate and timed to be two minutes in front of our own buses, together with a below cost fare charge.

These are the cases I was writing about. I did suggest that routes not at least 20 percent different from

existing routes should be disallowed, not routes with only some similarity.

BOB DUDLEY MANAGING DIRECTOR LUTONIAN BUSES LTD

Marksman is off-target over bus services story



From VE Jones

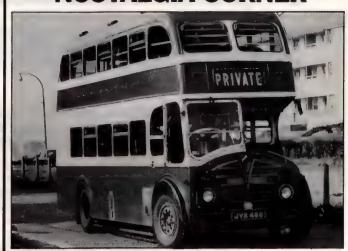
SIR

In Coachmart on August 2, Marksman suggests that Hereford and Worcester County Council are already in the process of running their own bus services. This statement is incorrect.

This is the second time recently I have had to write regarding the accuracy of Marksman's statement regarding this county council and suggest that he might have the courtesy to telephone the public transport team to check his facts before making any further statements or allegations.

V E JONES COUNTY ENGINEER AND PLANNING OFFICER HEREFORD AND WORCESTER COUNTY COUNCIL

NOSTALGIA CORNER



THERE was no mistaking a Foden bus or coach in the early post-war years. Not all that many were built but they were renowned for smooth running.

This PVD6 double decker was built in 1952 with a Massey body for the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society's bus services in the Paisley area, run under the name of its previous owner, Smith of Barrhead.

It survived for more than 11 years, being withdrawn before the business was taken over by Western SMT in 1968.

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- 1980 MERCEDES 608D REEVE BURGESS, 19 High Back seats. Exterior red/white/blue. Interior duo brown. Tinted windows, top sliders to windows, racks, twin tanks, boot, rear foglights. (MoT 04.01.91). Ref: 5259. £9,250
- 1983 MERCEDES 309D DEVON CONVERSION, 19 seater, exterior white, brown and gold, interior red and black striped moquette. Full draw curtains, Eberspacher & Bristol dome. (MoT 01.10.90). Ref: 5309. £13,500
- 1987 MCW METRO RIDER, 25 High Back seats, exterior red/white, interior brown/red moquette, radio/PA/stereo, driver operated entrance door. Tinted windows, curtains, soft trim, rear scope, parcel racks, digital clock. (MoT 7.3.91). Ref: 5198. £29,750
- 1986 BEDFORD YNT DUPLE 320, 53 seater, exterior red and cream, interior grey/red moquette, radio, driver operated entrance door. Side locker, drivers locker, tinted wndows. (New test). Ref: 4475. £38,950
- 1986 BEDFORD YNT DUPLE 320, 55 seater, exterior white, interior grey/orange moquette. Radio/PA, driver operated entrance door, side locker, soft trim. (MoT 13.06.91). Ref: 4694. £39,950
- 1987 BEDFORD YNV DUPLE 320, 55 reclining seats, exterior white/orange/blue, interior grey/blue moquette. Radio/PA/stereo, w/discs, driver operated entrance door. Exhaust brake, side locker, tinted windows, curtains, gangway trim, soft trim, ferry lift. (MoT 28.01.91).

 Ref: 5229. £43,950
- 1988 BEDFORD YNV CAETANO ALGARVE, 53 seater, exterior brown/white, interior duo brown moquette, radio/PA/cassette, w/discs, plug door, exhaust brake. Side lockers, tinted windows, curtains, air suspension, soft trim. Lucas limiter. Footrests. (MoT 16.04.91). Ref: 5262. £47,950.
- 1979 LEYLAND NATIONAL, 41 seats + 22 standees. Exterior blue/yellow, interior orange moquette, 5 speed SA gearbox, folding door, drivers cab, destination gear. (MoT 07.01.91). Ref: 5110. £9,950.

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The Big Country is beckoning

THE rich American accent on the end of the 'phone was scathing about the price of Scottish Citylink: 'Jeez. Five hundred thousand pounds for the company, and they've only got one bus...'

André Hobson of Floridabased Clearwater Express reckons he can offer a better deal for anyone who wants to go Stateside. Six coaches and a selection of school buses, contracts for the forthcoming 10-month season, and leasehold premises on which he claims the sub-lets pay the rent... all for \$240,000.

'I took the business a year ago,' he told *Mealstop*. 'But it's got me beat. This game is 24 hours a day, and I'm **def-fin-nitely** a nine to five man. I mean, this a labour of love.'

Turnover at Clearwater, mostly gleaned from the million inhabitants of Pinellas County, is around \$500,000, of which 70 percent is private hire. Parking is for around 16 American tri-axle, air-conditioned buses.

'Over here, we got luggage lockers under the vehicle,' says André. Well, these Americans have always got a bigger one...

Prospective buyers will see the advert in this week's



Coachmart's new diary column

issue. Ya'all take a peek now, va hear?

● IT WAS very brave of Minister for Public Transport Roger Freeman to volunteer for a tour of London's traffic blackspots. And particularly brave since those chaps at the Bus and Coach Council can't be trusted to play fair.

Having blessed the proposed visit with an innocuous, off-peak start time, the BCC has rearranged it to coincide with the Changing of the Guard traffic.

The new schedule says 10.45 am kick-off, noon finish... but the latter timing might be a bit optimistic.



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Time to stamp out needless hazards

AM I just unfortunate, or have others had the experience, which has twice been mine during the dry spells of this summer, of suddenly having about 10 gallons of water hit the screen from a crop sprayer which has been, somewhat idiotically, sited so that it waters the road as well as the field?

I believe that, in the interests of highway safety, it is an offence to light any fire near to a highway, or to burn stubble (soon to be totally outlawed) when the smoke will drift over a nearby road.

Should not similar legislation be applied to protect road users from the ineptitude of bucolic siters of water sprays?

With road deaths running at about 100 a week (only one of which on present averages involves a PSV), action to remove unnecessary potential causes of accidents must be worth while.

A credit system would act as a financial safeguard



WE ordinary mortals know that the mind of a civil servant works in strange and wonderful ways.

This is evidenced by their response to the call of the industry for credit account facilities to be given by traffic areas for registration fees or the costs of supplying photocopies of competitors' registrations.

They admit that in one area a system has evolved of operators depositing a sum of money from which such fees will be deducted and the operator is advised when the account needs topping up, yet reject the notion of a credit account system on the grounds that it would increase administrative costs!

In an attempt to give weight to this spurious argument, they further suggest that operators



DTp: cloistered minds?

would default on settling their accounts.

May I remind the cloistered minds of Marsham Street that operators are billed by traffic areas for far greater sums and, presumably, they pay up.

I refer to the five year cost of operator licences, which even for a one vehicle fleet is seven times as great as a registration fee.

My thought that operators pay the traffic area with unaccustomed alacrity is based on the assumption that one dares not even give a hint of financial instability to those nearest to the commissioner's ear.

Have the advisers of ministers forgotten that commissioners have to be satisfied as to an operator's financial standing in order to hold an 'O' licence?

Far from the (remote) possibility of operators failing to settle accounts with the traffic area being a reason **not** to have them, it is surely the best possible reason in favour.

I would bet a cup of civil servant's tea to a litre of Scotch whisky that an operator who who was forced to delay payment to the traffic area of a few pounds *must* be in financial difficulties and almost certain to have let his vehicle maintenance standards fall.

What a cheap early warning safety- check accounts like this would be!

First class services are needed to stave off disaster

WE operators are rightly concerned at the long term supply effect that the doldrums in new sales might have on the futures of manufacturers and dealers

But are the facts of the matter not that there was an artificial boom in vehicle sales before 1986 and that, with or without bus deregulation, a decline in PSV ridership is inevitable?

It is no reflection on the bus and coach services provided by our industry that passenger carrying is falling.

Increased affluence throughout all time has resulted in the acquisition of personalised transport.

Hardly more than two decades ago, a television, a washing machine and a car might have still been regarded by many as luxury domestic items. But yesterday's luxuries have become today's necessities.

If the operator, dealer and manufacturer readers of this journal are not prepared to eschew their cars in favour of using public transport, why should they/we, displaying



Pre-1986 vehicle sales: an artificial boom? We need to try harder to stop sales falling.

arrogant class consciousness, think that the **hoi polloi** of the population should

Î am convinced that we face a diminishing overall market.

But unless, and until, the whole public transport industry manages to make the product so attractive, so 'green', so socially desirable, so different and the 'in thing' to use, we operators, the manufacturers and dealers, face not just a

diminishing, but an industry in terminal decline.

How long can we keep on giving the public more of the same and expect their patronage?

Rail, sea and air carriers manage to take very considerable premiums for enhanced seating, attentive staff and up-market embarkation facilities.

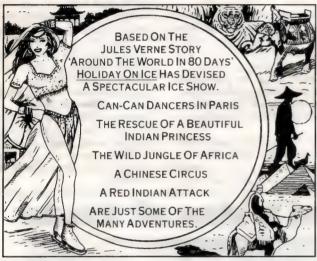
Where are our first class

conveyances, pullman lounges and the equivalent of stewards? Only on Rapide services - the one growth area in the PSV industry.

Until we learn how to extract people from cars and stop regarding our market as one of the mass transit of cloth capped plebians in maximum capacity vehicles, we are doomed. But we are very slow to change our ways.

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CARBOROUGH is an ideal 'bucket and spade' destination for trying out the Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme V1. Trips to such traditional British coastal resorts can make operators'

money, but it is not always as simple as

that

Skills managing director Nigel Skill put it succinctly: There is no mystery about running in-house express work, but it takes about ten years to build-up client confidence to get it running profitably. And Skills has run its 'bucket and spade' coastal express services for many years.

But Nigel admitted: 'The market is gradually getting smaller. However, it is still strong in places like Sheffield and Nottingham - old industrial towns with a

lot of manual working people.

The market for Skills' coastal express services, especially at the weekends, is mainly to get clients to inexpensive bed and breakfast venues for their traditional seaside annual break.

Its clients tend to keep transport and accommodation costs down, leaving more cash for incidentals such as beer, but are sufficiently sophisticated to realise lowpriced transport entails travelling on older coaches.

Refurbishment

Skills' policy to serve this market attempts to keep the fixed costs of vehicles down by running what it describes as 'battle buses.'

As an accurate description, this is a little unfair - the company is continually refurbishing its older vehicles to make sure passenger comfort is in the front line.

On the 1982-registered test vehicle, there was a new floor fitted by Express Coach Repairs of Pickering. And its Plaxton fixed semi-reclining seats had been retrimmed by Barnsley-based Coach Trimmers.

In addition, the company has extensively re-bodied its older vehicles in its own body shop, and repainted the vehicles in its distinctive livery of Skills' green, orange, brown and yellow.

No attempt is made to disguise registration plates with 'cherished number plates' as this is seen as an unnecessary expense.

So how does this policy work out on the road, at the sharp end? When I approached them, Nigel Skill and his general manager Terry Slater said: Why not. How about driving a Scarborough Express at the week-end?

The end result was this test, followed since by time away from my wordprocessor at the weekends to 'keep my hand in' as a part-time driver with the company.

Needless to say, the experience has been instructive.

I had picks-ups at both main bus stations in Nottingham, along with a nice burst up the M1 to the station in Sheffield.

Being spoiled by test driving launch vehicles from the major manufacturers, I admit I was a little unsure about how an older vehicle would be perceived by the



Unfairly dubbed a 'battle bus', this Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme V1 has been re-livered and refurbished.

PUTTING THE B58'S SKILLS TO THE TEST

Driving in-service for Nottingham-based Skills, Rod Davey finds a refurbished Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme VI is the older coach which suits 'bucket and spade' express work down to the ground.

customers.

But don't we always underestimate the public when it comes to economics? Most readily realised they were getting value for money and were enthusiastic about Skills' customer service (see Passengers' Views panel).

Outside In

Although its Plaxton Supreme VI

Performance: Acceleration:

0-30mph	10 seconds.
0-40mph	20 seconds.
0-50mph	33 seconds.
0-60mph	37 seconds.
0-70mph	64 seconds.

bodywork looks a little dated now, it sparkles in Skills' livery. The company's Peter Street depot in Nottingham has a drive-through wash for the night's last job and this, combined with its policy of keeping up with body and paintwork inhouse, puts the best possible face on the Skills fleet.

Jig-built in hollow steel section, the Plaxton Supreme VI bodywork has steelfluted panels to the sides, and lots of chrome trim, as well as at the front and rear. There's too much really, but it is typical of early eighties British coachwork.

As Nigel says: 'Body repair is easy enough, apart from the fluted joinings which require specialist fitment by outside

Although the double-glazed side windows, five at each side, cost about

ROAD TEST

◀£400 each to replace, windscreen replacement should not be too horrendous because the laminated screen is vertically split for replacement economy.

Stepping through the 710mm-wide passenger door, the passenger first notices the retrimmed fixed semi-reclining Plaxton 'E' type seats. With its new floor, the whole interior looks bright, breezy and new. The rear offside emergency door is slightly wider than the front at 810mm.

Its bright appearance is despite the fact the vehicle's teak effect laminated roof and sides are original. Nearly ten years old, it makes me wonder if this trim should not still be specified instead of the now popular full soft-trim - it is much easier to clean and does not rot around the window lines.

Step heights are not exactly even - but near enough not to make any difference. Ground to first step is 360mm, followed by steps of 240mm, 205mm and 215mm respectively.

The recovered saloon floor, in brand new vinyl covering, is flat apart from a slight aisle rise in between the first rows of seats. And the gangway width is about par for the course at 340mm.

Plaxton's 'E' type seats were retrimmed in a bluish grey moquette highlighted with contrasting horizontal and vertical stripes. The seats have integral head restraints and are fitted with seatback ashtrays.

Passengers said there was plenty of leg room. One man at six-foot three inches tall put this down to the lack of foot rests - worth bearing in mind when considering how far to go with coach specification.

Skills' B58 was used regularly on this day time coastal run, so no keys were necessary to lock the machine. Normally, security is provided with a locking catch on the passenger door - with access and egress through the rear emergency exit in the usual manner.

In this mid-engined Volvo, luggage

Fitter's View

I talked to Skills' fitter Paul Turner about the ease of maintenance and accessibility. He said: 'Routine maintenance is easy, with water located at the offside under the driver's cab through an outside flap. Oil is fed through the nearside behind the rear wheel arch, behind a flap which also houses the main switch. Diesel is on the offside in front of the rear wheel.'

On the nearside of the Volvo B58 batteries are mounted on a radial arm swing-out carrier considerably easier than present slide-out carriers. Inside inspection hatches in the aisleway give access to engine, gearbox and rear differential axle. Access to the air filter, power steering componentry and the methanol container for the air reservoirs is from both sides.

However, Mr Turner had some problems with access. He said: 'The radiator front hoses are hard to get to, and work on the fluid flywheel for the semi-automatic transmission means the gearbox has to be removed. It is difficult to remove the radiator and fan shaft for reinstallation.' But he was generally satisfied, saying: 'Most things are easy to work on.'



Skills' passengers enjoyed the ride on the Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme V1.

accommodation is mainly in the rear bootbut there is extra, if limited, space in a side locker. No accurate dimensions were available, but the return from Scarborough via Filey and Bridlington became quite a squeeze with the holiday makers luggage.

I was two short of a full load of 53 and had to use a double seat space to stash excess baggage. But space for incidentals in the vehicle's parcel racks, which were traditionally deep and wide, was more than adequate.

As the jaunt to the East Yorkshire coast was in the middle of 1990's summer heat wave, testing the vehicle's heating would not have been very productive.

Quite apart from not being able to judge its effect adequately, with more than fifty passengers on board there may have been a danger of mutiny. For the record the B58/Plaxton Supreme VI had three box blowers.

Although I felt the vehicle's forced air ventilation and rack blowers were a little on the weak side, only one passenger mentioned it when I asked for their opinions - the rest found ventilation sufficient.

In addition, there were three lift-up roof ventilators on the test vehicle which, although efficient, are not universally liked by passengers, especially older ladies fresh from the hairdressers. But they are simple and there is little to go wrong with them.

Lighting followed the late 1970s and early 1980s' pattern of being mounted in the roof centre panel and the vehicle was also equipped with a Radiomobile radio/PA/cassette teamed up with no less than ten speakers in the saloon area.

However, audio entertainment was not on the agenda on this seaside express, and I certainly did not want to risk foisting my own musical preferences on Skills' clients -

Passengers' Views:

On the outward journey I had driver Derek Selby, who was travelling out to Scarborough to ensure Skills' Whitby Express came within drivers' hours legislation, co-driving for me while I interviewed the passengers on part of the outward journey. Here is a selection of their comments.

Mr and Mrs Otley were on the seats behind the driver's area, and deemed the coach 'comfy' - obviously impressed by the Barnsley-based Coach Trimmers' retrim. And they added that despite the hot weather the coach was cool - so they had not noticed the warm air coming out of the front blower.

Even long-legged Mr and Mrs Gould said: 'The legroom's alright and the blowers are OK.'

In fact, most thought legroom was good with the Plaxton fixed semi-recliner seats, an observation Nigel Skill found surprising. But I had the chance to see for myself, and all passengers appeared comfortable.

Some taller passengers put this down to the lack of foot rests, which they said often reduced the leg room. Operators considering specifying foot rests may wish to bear this in mind.

On the same theme, Mrs Johnson said there was plenty of room to stretch: 'I appreciate that. I

travel everywhere by coach.' She added that she didn't like roof vents as they ruffled her hairstyle when open: 'Although you can avoid the draughts if you sit in the middle of the coach and the individual rack blowers are very good.'

Mr O'Reilly said the ride was a 'bit bouncy' and 'the individual blowers could do with being more powerful.' But his wife introduced economic arguments, saying: 'It's good economy for a family going on holiday - far cheaper than even travelling with a family railcard. And Skills go to Filey, but National Express don't.'

In fact, customers appeared very aware of what they were getting for their money - and seemed to appreciate such older vehicles were necessary for this type of work. They compared Skills to National Express, talking of the network operator as if it operated all its own coaches. Mr and Mrs Cooper said: 'Skills are better than National Express - and cheaper. The coaches are cleaner and more spacious. You also get a mealstop with Skills.' They said that if they used the National Express network to Blackpool it took five and a half hours from Sheffield.

Finally, Mr and Mrs Frith had their shoes off at the back and had nice things to say both about the 'legroom and lovely upholstery'. even if The B52s were only six out from The B58s.

Driving

Although the adjustable driver's seat was quite comfortable, I felt the ride quality was a little bouncy when unloaded. However, when passengers and luggage were on board the ride was quite firm - and furthermore the passengers felt it was adequate.

But looking around the cab it is very apparent that more thought is nowadays put into fascia design. As well as the tachograph being offset to the right hand side of the steering wheel, the rev counter also tended to this side. The end result is both dials are partially obscured by the steering wheel on occasions.

Each side of the steering column had stem controls - the left hand side for indicators and the right for dipping headlights. Wipers on each side of the horizontally-split laminated windscreen were independently controlled by rocker switches either side of the cab ventilation point on the right hand side.

Side, tail and headlights were controlled by a metal switch on the left hand side.

Together with the tacho and rev counter, in the central fascia panel were gauges for fuel, temperature and air - as well as an enormous circular universal warning light.

To the right, above the windscreen rocker switches, were switches for saloon, cab, rack and fog lights - as well as rack blowers and fans. The left hand side has a rectangular array of no less than 20 warning lights, although not all are functional these days.

On the far left, a panel above the audio installation houses the hazard warning switch as well as the main exterior lights switch, demister control and four heater switches.

The gear control column is located under these switches. It is worth going through the unusual configuration, which is double 'H' with an extra gate upwards to the left for crawler. In the double 'H' it follows first, second, third, fourth, reverse and start mode.

The exhaust brake is controlled by a small foot switch on the left hand cab floor. Because the vehicle is a semi-automatic, the exhaust control is unemcumbered as there is no clutch pedal. Positions of accelerator and footbrake are in the normal locations on the right hand floor.

The gear controls are also in a fairly standard position, albeit positioned



Luggage accommodation looks adequate, but families on seaside holidays take the kitchen sink with them. The return journey entailed storing excess baggage on the only spare double seat.

forward on the left hand fascia panel. And the air actuated parking brake is sensibly placed on the driver's signalling window panel.

The Broms brake is also on this panel, but here hangs a tale. This Volvo safety device is designed to hold the coach steady in the event of air failure while the vehicle is parked - or may be applied manually by pulling out the stop.

If the stop is out, there is no way the vehicle will move. Gears are impossible to engage, and if the driver is not aware of the brake being on it can be very confusing. Well, it happened to me - but after the test.

Running an express on the same route, I parked at the mealstop on the return journey. To cut a long story short, I suspect a child had pulled out the Broms brake stop while I was out of the cab. It cost me an hour.

To avoid delays and perhaps expense when running vehicles with such devices, I feel it might be a good idea for a prominent sign somewhere in the cab explaining the Broms brake.

It may sound silly, but in a failure to roll away, the Broms brake should be the first thing looked at - but is often the last.

Once I was rolling up the M1 towards Sheffield I did not find a lot of play in the servo-assisted ZF steering. Although reasonably light, it was very positive giving me a reasonable feel for the road. But the steering did pull slightly to the nearside, drawing the conclusion it was not perfectly balanced.

Its compressed air brakes, with separate circuits for front and rear, were effective with no pulling to either side.

Specification

Vehicle Type: 1982 Volvo B58/Plaxton Supreme VI - re-floored by Express Coach Repairs of Pickering and seats retrimmed by Coach Trimmers of Barnsley.

D:	me	:		
11 21	mei	nsu	nn	Ε.

Length	11,750mm.
Width	2,490mm.
Height	3,200mm.
Wheelbase	6,000mm.
Rear overhang	3,510mm.
Front overhang	2,240mm.

Weights:

Unladen weight	9,700kg.
GVW	15,695kg

Engine:

Туре	Volvo THD 100A°six- cylinder four-stroke diesel with direct injection and
	turbocharger.
Maximum output	250bhp @ 2,200rpm.
Maximum torque	694 lbf ft @ 1,400rpm.
Capacity	9.6 litres swept volume.

Gearbox

Туре	Wilson semi-automatic
	epicyclic four speed with crawler.

Gear	Ratio	Max Speed	RPM
1 st	4.28	20mph	2,250
2nd	2.43	30mph	2,250
3rd	1.59	50mph	2,250
4th	1.00	70mph	2,260
Reverse	5.97		

ı	Final Drive	Single reduction hypoi	С
1	Ratio	5.43.1	

Steering:

	Type Lock	Servo-assisted ZF Spindelhydrolenking	j.
ı	Lock	4.5 turns from lock to lock.	

Brakes: Type

Ì	,,,,,	separate circuits for front and
ı		rear.
ı	Parking brake	Air brake, inverted type.
	Retarder	ASD, electro-magnetic with fou
		stage hand control on fascia.
	Exhaust brake	Foot-controlled via electro-
		pneumatic actuation.

low air pressure.

Suspension:

Safety brake

lype	Air-assisted steel springs.
lype Front	Steel springs, 2 x air springs, 2
	x double-acting hydraulic shock
	absorbers.
Rear	Steel springs, 4 x air springs, 2

Steel springs, 4 x air springs, 2 x double-acting shock

Broms brake safety device for

Compressed air brakes with

absorbers.

Axles:

ront.	4,200kg max load.
Rear	7,500kg max load.

Fuel System:

ank Volume	180 litre (40 gallons).
ocation	Installed RHS behind front axle.

Fuel Economy

Route: Nottingham - Sheffield - Howden - Bridlington - Filey - Scarborough and return (motorway stretches on M1, M18 and M62, with single carriageway trunk routes).

and return (mot	orway stretches on M	11, M18 and M62,	, with single carriage	way trunk r
	Fuel Used ltrs/gals	Odometer reading	Distance km/miles	MPG
AVERAGE	131.83/29	443442.2 443942.4	500.2/310.82	10.72

However, it must be said there are few hills to worry about on this Scarborough express. All the same, using a combination of the ASD multi-stage retarder and exhaust brake, the vehicle had plenty of stopping power when negotiating the numerous roundabouts en-route.

What a shame, then, that the efficient braking system was marred by excessive noise - drawing comment from passengers. As I had already discussed the matter with Skills' engineer, I had to explain the brake screech was not only an inherent fault with the machine, but was made worse by the linings being exceptionally dry due to the hot weather this year. Definitely a case for the fitment of lownoise linings.

More noise, a high-pitched whining reminiscent of fan belt scream, occured when either the retarder was applied for any length of time or the gear was left in start mode. But noise from the midmounted engine was about average, although a little noisier in the higher ratios of the lower gears.

With four and a half turns from lock to lock, the vehicle was more manoeuvrable than most full-size coaches. This was noticeable when driving through the narrow streets and mini roundabouts in Filey - and a good thing to note in your 'Filey fax'. Forward and rearward visibility was fairly good.

Performance

Acceleration tests were carried out by Skills staff following the in-service road run, although their figures seem a little conservative given my impressions of performance on the road (see panel).

The vehicle always seemed to have plenty of power in hand, no matter what the road speed, and was capable of straying over the maximum limit on the motorway even when fully loaded.

Even on gradients, the Volvo pulled nicely - dropping to about 60 mph on the longest hills. The coach's THD 100A engine generated 250 bhp @ 2,200 rpm, but had a high torque of 694 lbf ft @ 1,400 rpm.

Very driveable, but Nigel Skill said the Wilson semi-automatic gearbox was not well-matched with the engine, and exchange boxes costing £1,000 were

Operator's View:

'Our Volvo B58s are magic,' said Nigel Skill, managing director of Nottingham-based Skills Motor Transport. 'It's one of the best chassis we

But he did have some criticisms: 'The fan drive wears out quickly - and we only get 12 months' life from the Wilson gearbox. Really designed for the Leyland Leopard, the more powerful engine strains it. It costs about £1,000 to fit reconditioned boxes from Avon based in Wakefield, who also fit reconditioned fluid flywheels - another source of trouble.'

'Excessive power also tends to rip the prop shafts - but we have beefed them up. We got a local engineering firm to fit stronger universal joints and now they are very reliable.'



Batteries are mounted on a handy swingout carrier, located on the vehicle's nearside on a radial arm.

needed once a year.

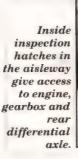
And the fluid flywheel, which replaces the action of a clutch on fully manual coaches, is another source of trouble. It brought me back to my days as a driver with Yorkshire Rider.

Rider kept a 'black museum' of ruined flywheels and prop shafts in its PSV driver training centre in an attempt to extract some 'vehicle sympathy' from its drivers.

Drivers were told when using semiautomatic transmissions to change to neutral when standing at bus stops, traffic queues or traffic lights. Such sympathy is said to prolong gearbox, fluid flywheel and prop shaft life.

One of the most startling results of the test was fuel economy, which over the full 311 mile return journey, came out at 10.72 mpg - not bad at all for a fully-loaded coach with semi-automatic transmission.

The trip between Nottingham, Sheffield and Yorkshire's East coast involved stretches of the M1, M18 and M62. But on leaving the M62, the A614, A163 and A166 to Bridlington - combined with the A166 coast road - represented an undulating single-carriageway crosscountry section with lots of sharp bends and gear work.





Verdict

While not a fleet flagship, Skills' B58/Plaxton Supreme VI was equal to its 'bucket and spade' express work, although it would have worked a lot better if the excessive brake noise was absent.

Major plus points are general performance on the road, fuel economy, and the impressive standard of coach refurbishment, but as well as problems with brake howl, negative points included trouble with luggage space.

Maintenance problems include the life of gearboxes and fluid flywheels, although I feel this could possibly be improved with driver education regarding 'vehicle sympathy.'

Propellor shaft replacement is an expensive business, so hats off to Skills for attending to the problem at source. This major component is now much stronger on the fleet's B58s, with a Nottingham engineering firm fitting larger and stronger universal joints.

Bearing such caveats in mind, B58s of such vintage can be picked up on the secondhand market for between £20,000 and £25,000.

They're just the job for the more downmarket contract and private hire work. Although an investment in such vehicles would help to keep initial overheads down, it must be born in mind that Skills has an established in-house maintenance team familiar with the margue

My advice is to be sure about such capabilities before going for this vehicle and regarding costing, also make sure variable maintenance costs are accounted

If this is done, I see no reason why such a machine will not help to maintain a healthy bottom line.

AT A GLANCE

Ride Quality - A little bouncy, but quite firm when loaded with holiday-makers and luggage. Passengers liked the ride.

Steering - Not much play, but pulled slightly to left hand side. Very positive, causing no anxiety, and reasonably light.

Braking - Effective, with no pulling to either side - although few hills on this Nottingham - Sheffield - Scarborough 'bucket and spade' express.

Noise - Loud brake screech in the hot weather of this in-service road test. Lots of engine noise in low ratios and fan belt whine when in 'S' start position on Wilson semi-automatic gear shift. Luggage - Accommodation is mostly in rear boot, although limited space in side locker. No dimensions but quite a squeeze with full load of returning holiday makers. Two seats spare - was forced to store excess baggage there.

Security - There were no keys on the test coach.
Heating - Three box blowers. Front blower was
pushing out warm air during the test.
Ventilation - Three lift-up roof vents. Forced air
ventilation including rack blowers was on the
weak side.

Lighting - Fluorescent lights in roof. Handrails and guards - Adequate.

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Bus and Coach Council supports listing

COACHMART'S free and ever-growing listing of toilet drop points has been backed by the Bus and Coach Council.

The BCC sees a need for a comprehensive list of sites suitable for touring coaches to dispose of toilet waste, rather than drop it illegally into the sewerage system where it damages natural biological

processes

Most operators, quite rightly, make a charge for this service but Rank Motorway Services offers toilet drops free at the Farthing Corner Services, Kent, because it can get its profit from the passengers aboard the coach or from the inevitable, if occasional, refuelling.

All of the coach operators listed below can also provide, at varying cost, disposal of toilet waste and in most cases can also supply the correct chemicals and toilet tissue which enable the toilet to work efficiently and without smell

Coachmart would like to hear from any other company

which can supply toilet emptying facilities. Those already listed need not write again unless to update the current listing

The listing is free, and will appear several times throughout the year within the magazine. It is the ONLY current and regularly updated list of toilet emptying points.

TOILET EMPTYING FACILITIES

DERBYSHIRE:

Boyden International Coaches, Station Road, Castle Donington, Derby, Tel:0332 850000, Fax:0332 850279. Open 0800 to 1800 mon-fri, or by arrangement. Charge: £1.50. Can supply toilet chemical and tissue.

DURHAM:

Go-Ahead Northern, Picktree Lane, Chesterle-Street, Co. Durham, Tel:091 388 2261. Open 24 hours. Charge: £15. Can supply tailet chemical and tissue.

ESSEX:

Frank Harris Coaches, Manor Road, West Thurrock, Grays, Essex (2 miles from junction 30/31, M25), Tel:0708 864911, Fax:0708 865715. Open 24 hrs. Charge £10.

HAMPSHIRE

Priory Coaches, Quay Lane Industrial Estate, Hardway, Gosport, Hants, Tel:0705 580522, Fax: 0705 523050. Open 0800 to 1800, other times by prior arrangement only. Charge £5. Can supply chemicals and toilet tissue.

KENT:

Farthing Corner Services (M2), Rainham, Gillingham, Kent ME8 8PQ, Tel:0634 33343/44. Open 24 hrs. FREE. Also fresh drinking water and tap water.

Kentish Bus and Coach, London Road, Northfleet, Kent, Tel: 0474 333764. ALSO Central Road, Dartford, Kent, Tel:0322 76044. HQ Tel:0474 325533, Fax:0474 325073. Open 24 hrs. Charge: £7.50.

LANCASHIRE:

Abbott's Coaches, 95 - 97 Talbot Road, Blackpool, Tel:0253 20350, Fax:0253 25548. Open 0830 to 1730. Price: (phone). Can supply toilet tissue and chemicals. Blackpool Transport Services, Rigby Road, Blackpool, Tel:0253 23931, Fax:0253 752604. Open 0830 to 2230, every day.



All of the operators listed can dispose of toilet waste and most can also supply the necessary chemicals and tissue.

Charge: £5.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE:

Northumbria Motor Service, 6 Portland Terrace, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tel:091 281 1313, Fax: 091 281 4634. Open 0600 to 2359 hrs. Charge £14. Can supply toilet chemical and tissues.

OXFORDSHIRE:

Midland Red South, Canal Street, Banbury, Tel:0295 253451. Charge £25. Toilet chemical/tissue available.

Tappins Coaches, Southmead Park, Didcot, Oxford, Tel:0235 819393, Fax:0235 816464. Open 0600 to 1800 hrs. Charge: £5 (includes fresh toilet chemical and tissue).

SOUTH YORKSHIRE

Wilfreda Beehive, Apex Garage, Church Lane, Aldwick-le-Street, Doncaster DN6 7AY, Tel0302 330330, Fax:0302 330204. Open 0700 to 1900 hrs. Charge £4, toilet washdown £7.50. Can supply toilet chemical/tissue.

STAFFORDSHIRE

Copelands Tours Ltd, Uttoxeter Road, Meir, Stoke on Trent, Tel:0782 324466, Fax:0782 260719. Open 0800 to 1800 hrs. Charge £5. Can supply toilet chemical/tissue.

SUFFOLK

Galloways European Coachlines Ltd, Denters Hill, Mendlesham, Stowmarket IP14 5RR, Tel:0449 766323, Fax:0449 766241. Open 24 hours (by arrangement). Charge £10. Can also supply toilet chemical/tissue. Washing down available by prior arrangement (24 hrs).

WARWICKSHIRE

Midland Red South, Station Approach, Learnington Spa, Tel:0926 422462. From July 1. Charge £25. Chemical and tissue available

Midland Red South, Newtown Road, Nuneaton, CV11 4MR, Tel:0203 348180. Charge £25. Toilet chemical/tissue available.

Midland Red South, Railway Terrace, Rugby CV21 3HS, Tel:0788 543124. Charge £25, Toilet chemical/tissue available.

Midland Red South, Avenue Farm Site, Stratford-on-Avon, Tel:0789 204183. Charge £25. Toilet chemical/tissue available.

WEST MIDLANDS

Price International, The Coach Station,
Bromsgrove, Halesowen, West Midlands,
Tel:021 550 2471, Fax:021 550 2485. By
prior arrangement only. Open 0700 to 1730
hrs. Charge £5. Can also supply toilet
chemical/tissue.

SCOTLAND

TAYSIDE

Tayside Buses, 44 - 48 East Dock Street, Dundee DD1 3JS, Tel:0382 201121, Fax:0382 201997. Open 24 hrs. Charge

WALES

WEST GLAMORGAN:

South Wales Transport, Clarence Terrace, Swansea, Tel:0792 475116, Fax:0792 475751. Open 24 hrs. Charge: £15. Can supply toliet chemical and tissue.

GWENT:

Gwalia Coaches, Tremarl Industrial Estate, Llandudno Junction, Gwynedd, Tel:0492 596072. Open 0730 to 1800 hrs. Charge £5. Can supply toilet chemical/tissue.

Name of com	pany:
Address:	
Tel:	Fax:
Toilet empty	ing available from (time)toto
at £	approx by prior arrangement only at/any time
(delete as re	levant)
Can also sup	ply special toilet tissue/toilet
chemicals/	
Send to: Toil	et points, Coachmart, EMAP Response,
Wentworth F	Iouse, Wentworth Street, Peterborough PE1 1DS,
or Fax: 0733	62656

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> 1983 LEYLAND TOLD, MOT March
> 191.
> 1982 LEYLAND LEOPARD 680 Plaxton
> Surpreme, 50 reclining seats, MOT May
> 191. 1981 LEYLAND LEOPARD 680 Plaxton 1981 LEYLAND LEOPARD 680 Plaxton Surpreme, 50 reclining seats, new MoT. 1979 VOLVO 858 Duple Dominant, 53 seats, MoT July '91. 1979 VOLVO 858 Van Hool, 53 seats, MoT June '91 MoT June '91.
>
> 1979 BEDFORD YMT Duple Dominant, 53 seats, Dec '90. 1977 BRISTOL LHL LEYLAND 101 Engine Plaxton, 53 seats, MoT April '91. 1975 BRISTOL LH LEYLAND 401 Plaxton, 43 seats, Class 5 MoT.

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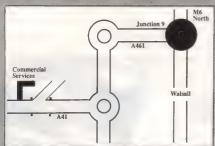
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Weekly report on law and the coach operator By Michael Jewell

■LEGAL NEWS

■ PROPOSALS to phase out the arrangements that allow buses to be driven on ordinary driving licences have been given the go-ahead by the Department of Transport.



Experienced drivers are given concessions to enable them to still drive buses.

But there will be a concession to enable experienced drivers to claim continuing entitlement to drive these buses

Following consultations, new roads and traffic minister Christopher Chope has also decided that:

■ The start date for the new regulations will be postponed from January 1, 1991 to April 1, 1991.

■ The definition of preserved or hisoric buses will be changed for driver licensing purposes to apply to vehicles made more than 30 years ago rather than those made before 1960 as originally proposed.

The so-called grandfather rights to PSV driving will continue - with

certain provisos.

Experienced drivers already driving large buses will be able to continue to do so without a further test if they can prove substantial, relevant and recent driving experience and meet health and conduct requirements.

They have until March 31 1992 to claim this entitlement and it will be restricted to vehicles that are not being driven for hire or reward.

■ A CHECK on speed limiters is to be included in the annual test on coaches after April next year.

Legislation currently in force requires certain coaches to fitted with speed limiters, but a check on whether they are working or not is not included in the current annual

The test on speed limiters will cover whether one is fitted and if its seals are intact - ie whether it has been tampered with.

The proposed test is due to come in after the period for retrospective fitting of speed limiters ends in April

Driver wins fight for cash



INDUSTRIAL tribunal has ruled that a driver who lost his job

following the closure of Victoria Motorways should be paid £2,767,05.

The Cardiff hearing said Mr G Jones is due the money, in redundancy pay and pay in lieu of notice, from the Secretary of State for Employment.

Mr G Jones had claimed alternatively against Mr and Mrs Henry Wesley James, Mr Fred Williams and Mr Norman Williams, trading as Victoria Motorways; Mr Glyndwr Williams, trading as Victoria Motorways; or the Secretary of State.

A further claim by Mr Jones in relation to holiday money was rejected by the tribunal.

The tribunal said Victoria Motorways was originally owned and operated by the parents-in-law of Mr Henry Wesley James.

On their deaths, the business passed to Mr and Mrs James and the nephews of the previous owners. Norman and Fred Williams and they ran the business until the end of April 1989.

Mr Jones had been employed as a driver since 1975 on contract work and continental holidays.

In the early part of 1989 the family decided to dispose of the business. Mr Glyndwr Williams, who was unknown to them, expressed an interest and after some delay he purchased the business.

It was a term of the agreement that Mr Glyndwr Williams would continue to employ Mr Jones and Mr Norman Williams, However, after some weeks Mr Norman Williams became dissatisfied with the way that the business was being run and left.

On July 4, 1989, a representative of a firm of accountants called and advised Mr Jones that Mr Glyndwr Williams was an undischarged bankrupt.

New owner was an undischarged bankrupt.

He was told that he should take his coach down to the receiver's vard and thereafter register with the Unemployment Benefits Office

It was quite clear that Victoria Motorways had been sold as a going concern with effect from May 1, 1989

It was a relevant transfer within the meaning of Regulation 2 of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 1981. The effect of Regulation 5 of these was that the transfer did not operate as a termination of Mr Jones' contract of employment.

He was therefore not entitled to redundancy pay and other monies from the transfer on that occasion. The result was that he had continuity of employment

from August 1975 with Mr Glyndwr Williams.

Nobody was aware at the time that Mr Glyndwr Williams was an undischarged bankrupt. Mr Jones was dismissed without prior notice on July 4, when the receiver called and the business ceased. That met the test of redundancy contained in the 1978 **Employment Protection** (Consolidation) Act.

It was clear that Mr Jones was entitled to a redundancy payment from Mr Glyndwr Williams. However, Mr Glyndwr Williams was serving a term of imprisonment and it was unlikely that he would be in a position to pay.

The tribunal said the evidence established quite clearly that Mr Glyndwr Williams was made bankrupt in 1987. An employer was taken to be insolvent if he was adjudged bankrupt.

It followed that Mr Jones was entitled to make a claim for the payment to be made by the Secretary of State in such circumstances.

Similarly, he was entitled to make a claim for the payment of money in lieu of notice to be made by the Secretary of State.

Turning to the question of holiday pay, the tribunal said the claim related to the period between April 1 and July 4, 1989. However, that holiday pay did not accrue in the 12 months up to the relevant date, as required by the regulations, which was the date that the employer became insolvent.

Maintenance problems lead to licence cut and double decker ban



WILFREDA Luxury Coaches Ltd trading as Wilfreda Beehive of

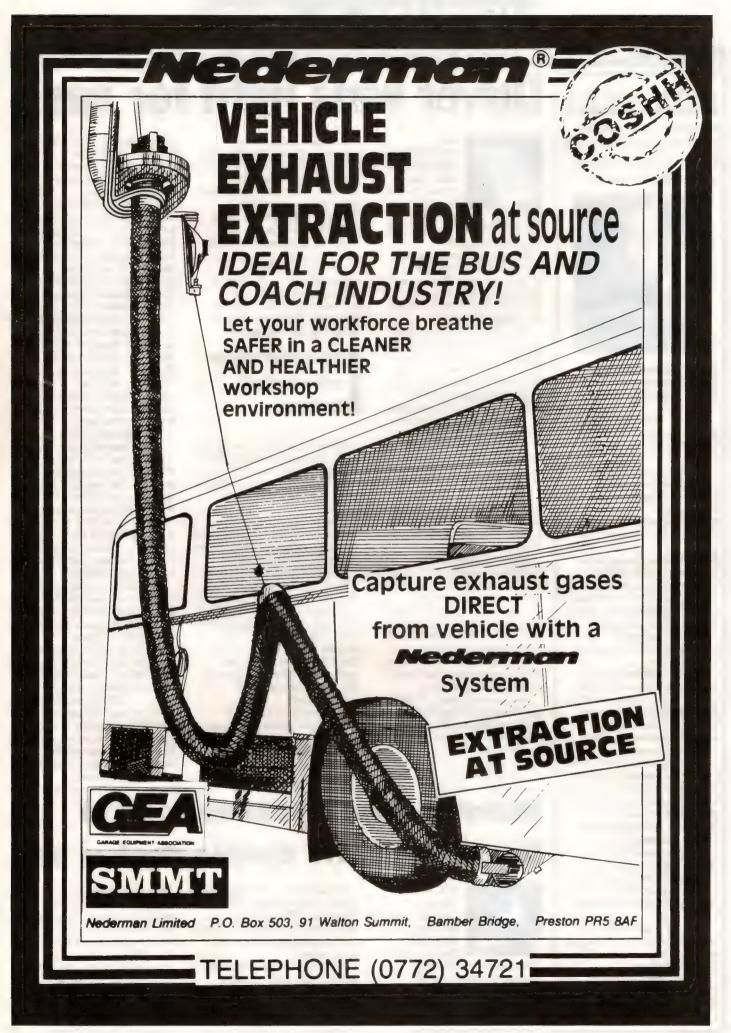
Doncaster - has had its licence cut from eight vehicles to six and been banned from running double deckers after suffering maintenance problems.

In addition, North Eastern traffic commissioner Mr Frederick Whalley has cut the licence duration so that it now expires at the end of September.

DTp vehicle examiner Mr Roger Page told a Leeds public inquiry that in January he inspected 20 vehicles, issuing six immediate prohibitions and 10 defect notices.

The condition of the vehicles did not tie up with the maintenance records. Maintenance was done on site. The facilities were adequate apart from the fact that the double deckers had to be inspected outside because of the height of the workshop doors.

He felt the problems



LICENSING & LEGAL

Weekly report on law and the coach operator By Michael Jewell

were caused by difficulties in recruiting suitable staff; poor communication between drivers, maintenance staff and management; and the lack of a vehicle inspector to ensure the fitters did not inspect vehicles they had worked on.

A second visit in May revealed that a new driver defect report system had been introduced, the company had purchased a headlight aligner and a rolling road brake tester, and the general manager, a Mr John Evans, had been given the responsibility of inspecting the vehicles.

Traffic examiner Mr Roger Scorer said he had checked the company's tachograph charts for the months of August and September 1989 and had been unable to establish any continuity of drivers or mileage, even when vehicles were shown to be abroad.

Tachograph examination revealed no continuity of drivers or mileage.

Many charts were missing. Despite further charts being produced at a subsequent visit, he was still not able to establish continuity.

Managing director Mr
William Scholey had said the
then transport manager had
not been doing his job
properly and he had not
ensured that drivers handed
in their tachograph charts.
He also said the missing
mileage might be due to out
of scope work.

Mr Whalley said he had received a letter from the transport manager stating that he had not been involved with tachographs. That had been the job of the transport coordinator.

Producing a warning letter issued to drivers for tachograph infringements, which had been signed by the transport manager, Mr Barry Prior, for the company, maintained that one of his jobs had been to look after the tachograph charts.

A receipt book was now kept to make sure that all



Wilfreda Beehive: condition of vehicles failed to match up with maintenance records.

charts were handed in, said Mr Prior. Charts were also now kept in driver order rather than vehicle order and a contract had been entered into for analysis by an outside agency.

Mr Scholey said he also ran E A Hart Ltd, which had a licence for 16 vehicles, and there was a total of 29 vehicles in possession.

The height of the workshop entrance was to be increased, but the priority at the moment was the installation of the rolling road and the headlamp aligner.

The fleet had been updated and six new vehicles purchased. The fitting staff had undertaken the paint spraying of the new vehicles. With hindsight, that had been a bad decision as it put the maintenance behind.

Drivers had now been instructed to report defects in writing no matter how small they were

small they were.
After Mr Whalley had
commented that some of the
defects noted on inspection
sheets produced had not been
signed off, Mr Scholey said
he could assure the
commissioner that nothing
was wrong. He was satisfied
the vehicles were in a
roadworthy condition.

Questioned about convictions for front axle, rear axle and gross overloads, Mr Scholey said they had arisen due to the construction of the vehicle concerned.

It had not been a question of carrying too many passengers. The vehicle had since been disposed of to prevent any recurrence.

Mr Whalley pointed out

that the company had failed to notify those convictions to the traffic area.

Asked why the company was operating double deckers when it had no licence authority to do so, Mr Scholey said he thought the licence had been varied.

Company operated double deckers without a licence to do so.

Mr Evans said it was a constant battle with the garage staff to get them to do the paperwork. The situation was not 100 percent but they were getting there.

Everybody was now working together and the defects found were getting less and less.

Mr Prior pointed out that this was the first time the company had appeared at a public inquiry since its formation in 1948.

Mr Whalley said he was satisfied there had been a failure of management control and vehicles had been operated in a potentially dangerous condition.

The inspection system had fallen down, with defects being missed or not notified. Though improvements were being made, deficiencies still existed.

However, the company had clearly seen the error of its ways, and he would take action to ensure that statements of intention must be fulfilled.

He directed that there be an immediate fleet check of all the vehicles owned over the following week.

Operator urged to praise staff



TRAFFIC commissioner Mr John Mervyn Pugh has urged an operator to

congratulate his drivers and fitters for helping to improve his company's maintenance system.

He made his comments after Mr Keith Brown trading as Keith's Coaches of Merthyr Tydfil - successfully renewed his PSV licence to operate nine single deckers.

South Wales commissioner

Mr Mervyn Pugh said that maintenance problems had resulted in Mr Brown appearing at a previous public inquiry in September 1989, when the duration of his licence was cut so that it expired at the end of December.

Since last September, Mr Brown's vehicles had collected one delayed prohibition for an excessive oil leak and that was a prohibition the commissioner was not really bothered about as excessive oil



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Weekly report on law and the coach operator By Michael Jewell

leakage was more of a problem for Mr Brown. It could have caused a

danger in that it was leaking on to the roadway, but he did not regard it too seriously.

Mr Brown said he had completely changed the engine of the vehicle concerned and was now operating the maintenance system that had been recommended to him at the previous public inquiry.

It was not as hard to bring a vehicle up to scratch now and they were now finding two or three defects instead of 20 or 30.

His drivers were obeying instructions to report defects as they knew that they would get the sack otherwise. He was reducing the authorisation on the licence as he had lost four buses due to vandalism.

His greatest problem was vandalism by school children. There had been an instance of a coach parked in a school yard when the children had

When he complained to the headmaster, he was asked what he expected if he parked the coach there. Children had smashed every window in a coach at the beginning of

He was currently operating eight vehicles and he would like to have a spare. They had moved to a new establishment with new garage facilities since the

previous public inquiry. Mr Mervyn Pugh said he would like Mr Brown to write a letter to his drivers and fitters, saying that the traffic commissioner congratulated them on the way they were operating the system and as a result he had now got a full five year licence.

In granting the licence, Mr Mervyn Pugh commented that the recent tragic accident in France had made the public more safety conscious and it should also make operators more safety conscious.

written on its side with a nail. When he complained to the Misuse of PSV costs woman operator £250



MRS PHYLLIS Woodend has been ordered to pay £250 in fines and costs for failing to display a PSV licence disc and driving a public service vehicle when unqualified to do so.

Mr John Heaton, prosecuting for the North Western traffic area, told Manchester

magistrates that a 14 seater minibus driven by Mrs Woodend. was seen to drop off three passengers by traffic examiners carrying out a check at Manchester Airport in April.

No PSV licence identity disc was being displayed and Mrs Woodend - trading as Uiswick Airport Services - admitted that she was not the holder of a PSV driving licence.

In a letter to the court pleading guilty to both offences, Mrs Woodend said the PSV laws were very complicated. She had thought that a public service vehicle was one that picked up fare paying passengers on the highway.

In this case the passengers had not paid any fares as she was working for a travel agent. Consequently, she had not thought that she needed to display a PSV licence identity disc.

She had taken the 14 seater to do the job as it was the only vehicle filled with sufficient fuel. There had been a power strike at the time which prevented her from filling up the smaller vehicles. No qualified PSV driver had been available.

Mrs Woodend was fined £150 for driving the minibus when not the holder of a PSV driving licence and £50 for failing to display a PSV licence identity disc. She was also ordered to pay £50 towards the costs of the prosecution.

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Jack Tinker Daily Mail

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No tipping here, please

A HOTEL chain has stepped up its campaign against tipping.

Hidden Hotels - which operates six hotels throughout the country - now actively discourages tipping 'except in circumstances of exceptional service.'

Mel Taylor, group managing director, says she is against the practices in some hotels where staff 'hover in anticipation', give loose bar change in a saucer expecting some to be left, or leave the bottom line on a credit card slip uncompleted.

She says: 'Such tactics are putting moral pressure on clients and are wrong for an industry which is, after all, basically charging in the first place for the service being given.'

To back up its stance, Hidden Hotels is now offering a £5 per person reduction on a weekend break to compensate any guest who has suffered 'pressure-tipping' in other hotels.

Hidden Hotels runs Ansty Hall, near Coventry; Miskin Manor, near Cardiff; Brandshatch Place, Kent; Nutfield Priory, near Redhill, Surrey; Beechfield House, near Bath and the Town House, Glasgow.

Ring 0737 822072 for more information.

Take a trip to the Emerald Isle

COACH operators are being offered off-season trips to Ireland.

Independent Coach Travel has organised four comprehensive itineraries with lead in prices of £45 for a party weekend in Dublin.

ICT is also offering operators full marketing support which includes printing 200 personalised leaflets with the company's name and logo free of charge.

ICT sales and marketing director Stephen Moore said: 'Coach operators are continually looking for new ideas outside of the main tourist season.

'Ireland fits the bill as it is establishing itself as one of the fastest growing locations and is eager to provide full entertainment programmes and assistance with local visits and excursions.'

'Get Over To Ireland' tours promise top quality hotels and full entertainment programmes and are available between October 1, 1990 and March 31, 1991 (excluding Festival and Bank Holidays).

More information is available on 071 538 4627.

Coach parties are welcome

THE Ellenbank Hotel in Cumbria is looking to expand its coach party trade.

The country house hotel is on the shores of the beautiful Solway Coast and is close to the Lake District, Carlisle and the Scottish borders.

It has just extended its facilities and now has 26 bedrooms plus conference suites and function rooms.

It can cater for coaches wishing to stop for a coffee/toilet stop or on a mystery tour or week's holiday based on the hotel.

You can contact it on 0900 815233.

Enjoy a right royal day out

THE Princess of Wales will next Wednesday (September 12) open the first International Covent Garden Festival at London's Theatre Museum and its first event, the exhibition 'Slap! - A celebration of stage make-up.'

The exhibition reveals the dressing-room make-up secrets of generations of performers from David Garrick to David Bowie.

Slap - the nickname actors give their make-up - is the first comprehensive exhibition in the history and craft of stage make-up.

From the early days of sometimes poisonous powders to grease-paint, pancake and now body liquid, make-up has played an integral part in creating stage performances in pantomime, opera, musicals, ballet and drama.

The attraction will be open every day, except Mondays, from 1100 to 1900 and groups of 15 or more are welcome by prior arrangement and will enjoy a discount on the admission charge (£1.50 per person instead of £2.50).

Dressing room settings will reveal make-up hints from stars such as Dame Edna Everage, Toyah and Boy George.

Visitors to the exhibition can even try out some of the different make-ups, and demonstrations and talks by consultant Rosemarie Swinfield can be arranged for groups.

Ring 071 735 9940 for more information.

Plymouth Dome wins a tourism 'Oscar'

PLYMOUTH Dome has won the British Tourism Authority's Special Award.

The Dome was the only southern attraction to gain the accolade - recognised as the 'Oscars' of the tourism industry.

It comprises displays reflecting Plymouth's history and includes sections on Elizabethan life, adventure on the high seas and the city's links with famous seafarers and great luxury liners.

The Dome has only been open for 16 months, but has already attracted 250,000 visitors.

To celebrate its latest award, Plymouth Mayor Jack Finnigan led the re-enactment of the time-honoured tradition of 'splicing the mainbrace'



Mayor of Plymouth Jack Finnigan (left) and civic officials toast the Dome with traditional Pusser's rum.

with guests enjoying a genuine tot of Pusser's rum served from a traditional tub using original measures.

Mr Finnigan said: 'We are

tremendously proud to have received this great award from the British Tourist Authority. It is the most prestigious we have received to date, and recognises the commitment the city council and its staff have shown in this world-class attraction.'

Ring The Dome on 0752 603300.

Droves go through Dover

COACH transport using the Port of Dover went up by three percent in the first seven months this year compared to the corresponding period in 1989.

More than 74,400 coaches used the port, helping to swell the total number of passengers to 8,865,649 this year - up by more than 3.5 percent.

DEVON

NEWQUAY MINERVA HOTEL

Family run hotel yards from beach and town. TV all rooms, tea making facs, central heating, most en suite, 6 nights entertainment, licensed har.

BBEM from £80 per week Tel. 0637 873439

SKEGNESS

CHATSWORTH

0754 4177

NORTH PARADE SKEGNESS LINCS PE25 2UB

The Raynor family offers a very warm welcome to coach parties. All rooms have radios, intercoms, colour TV's central heating, continental quilts, tea/coffee making facilities. Coach operators call us to discuss special rates. 22 rooms, 15 ensuite

Available 15th Oct four days and 22nd-29th October

One lingers with pleasure and leaves with regret. (7091/HO/91)

DEVON

DELMAR HOTEL

242 Queens Promenade, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 9HA Tel. (0253) 51327 Reception (0253) 51920 Residents

Located in a select position overlooking the cliffs and Irish Sea. Easy access to trams, buses and Blackpool's many attractions.

Colour TV, tea making facilities all rooms, en suite available. Ample parking for coach. Lift, sun lounge, cosy bar with free and easy nights, bingo ,dancing and singing to Ken on the organ.

> **WEEKEND AND MID-WEEK MINI BREAKS** NOW TAKING 1991 BOOKINGS

> > **OPEN ALL YEAR**

(12373/HO)

CORNWALL

21 Mount Wise, Newquay, Cornwall TR7 2BQ

Licensed hotel, 5 minutes from town, beaches and all amenities. 14 rooms all have colour TVs and tea making facilities, some en suite. Central heated, lounge bar and pool table. Excellent home cooking. Ample parking, children welcome. Early/late season.

SPECIAL RATES FOR GROUP BOOKINGS. PARTIES OVER 18 – DRIVER FREE **AVAILABLE DATES AS FOLLOWS OCT/NOVEMBER**

For Brochure (0637) 876618

(12937/HO)

20/22 COOP STREET
BLACKPOOL
(1 minute from Central Pier)
(0253) 28070 (0253) 28070

This friendly hotel offers 26 bedrooms (some en suite). Colour TV, tea/coffee making facilities in all rooms.

Bring your party to our party. Entertainment nightly. Late late bar, Excellent menu. Fancy dress with prizes.

WINTER WEEKENDS

November and December Pre-Christmas Gala Inclusive 7 course candlelit dinner and disco/cabaret. £32.00 inclusive Friday-Saturday

Taking bookings for Christmas and New Year

> (Sorry - Illuminations fully booked)

COACH ORGANISER STAYS FREE!

(11394/HO)



EASTBOURNE

THE BEVERLEY HOTEL

14-22 Burlington Place, Eastbourne BN21 7AR Telephone: Reception 0323 642749

We are offering pre-Christmas breaks at two thirds of the normal price from £156.00 to £110.00 per week but still offering the full Christmas package.

Our November breaks we are offering at £99.00 per head. DATES AVAILABLE: Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, March 1991. All 1990 prices **FACILITIES**

★ Lift to all floors ★ 50 bedrooms ★ 32 with private facilities ★

* All rooms colour TV * D.D. Telephone * Central heating throughout *

★ Licensed with two bars ★ Ballroom with entertainment ★

★ Night Porter ★ Fire Certificate ★ Special rates early and late season ★

★ Ideal for conference delegates ★ Open for Christmas ★ ★ Family Owned ★ New Dining Room ★

GARDEN CENTRE



(SHREWSBURY BY-PASS) A5

CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW Gardening Centre Sat Sept 15th 1-6pm, Sun Sept 16th 10am-6pm

Walk through colourful houseplant displays. Browse through Cane Furniture, Garden Wear and Gift Shop.

Hot and cold light refreshments.

Book TODAY - COACHES ESPECIALLY WELCOME **REFRESHMENTS FREE to Coach Driver**

FREE LARGE CAR PARK - TEL: 0743 51497

Oteley Road, Shrewsbury SY2 6QW

(13605/CW)

oachmart

TELEPHONE 0733 8981 FAX 0733 62656

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COACHES WELCOME, MEALSTOPS, FEATURES – Contact Iris Rootham. Display: £11 per single column centimetre. Series discounts available. Please

Copy deadline: 1pm Tuesday for Thursday's issue. Cancellation deadline: 11am Tuesday.

BARGAIN BUSES

BARGAIN BUS FREIGHT ROVER DORMOBILE

20 seater plus 2 standees, D reg, is painted all white, PSV, tested August 1991, very good condition, bargain.

£5,900

Tel. Devon 08055 203

BARGAIN BUS

16 AND 20 **SEAT FREIGHT ROVER** MINIBUSES

1986/1988, full stage specifications, tested and taxed, power door, good condition, ready to go.

£6,500 upwards

Tel: 0404 46354 eves and weekends 0404 891411 Devon

BARGAIN BUS

COACHMART No 1 IN THE INDUSTRY

BARGAIN BUS **NORTHERN IRELAND** 1977

FORD PLAXTON

PA system, etc. Genuine bargain, very reliable motor.

Tel. 06937 73136 after 6pm

AEC

1977 AEC RELIANCE 760 PLAXTON SUPREME IV

52 seats, taxed and tested, good condition.

£6,500 + VAT ono 1978 T REG AEC 760

53 seats, semi auto, power door, tested until January 1990 and taxed, good condition.

£6,000 + VAT ono

Tel: Grange-over-Sands 05395 32623 or 0539 534794

(12973/AEC)

AEC COACH

51 reclining seats, one owner from new, excellent condition.

£3.000 + VAT ono

Ring for details

(0733) 810556

(13611/AEC)

BEDFORD

BEDFORD 1978, MoT August 1991, 53 seater

Bedford 1973, MoT June 1991, 53 seater

Bedford 1973, MoT May 1991, 45 seater

Al! well maintained, good clean condition.

Tel: Stoke on Trent (0782) 512209/512235

FOR SALE **DUE TO FLEET UPDATE**

1974 DOMINANT I, 53 April seater, MoT 1991£3,000

1978 DOMINANT II, 53 seater, new MoT £7,000

1981 DOMINANT IV, Turbo, 53 seater, MoT December 1990 £10,500 O REASONABLE OFERS. **OPEN**

MERCURY COACHES 0202 394283/579592

(12796/BE)

AEC, 1979,

MoT February 1991. Well maintained, good clean condition.

Tel: Stoke on Trent (0782)512209/512235

1978 AEC 760 PLAXTON SUPREME

Good condition, 53 seats, Mk IV front, private plate, excellent buy at

£5.000

ALLCO PASSENGER

VEHICLES

SPECIAL OFFER

Tel. 0203 680666

(12889/AEC)

35 SEATER BEDFORD YMOS. 1982 Dominant II, new MoT. Tel. Williams Coaches, Brecon 0874 2223 or 611534 evenings and 0874 730289.

PJK 1976, 29 seats, new engine, clutch and brake system, white, very good condition throughout, tested till June 1991. £3,800 + VAT ono. Tel. 0329 234839. (12953/BE)

AEC 760 DUPLE 1979

53 seater, 11 metre, semi-auto, power doors, MoT June 1991, driver's interior screen and pay door, if required.

£8,500

Tel. 061 624 8975

(12765/AFC)

1981 BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON, 53 seater, MoT 17/12/90. £9,750.

1977 BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON, 53 seater, MoT 5/91. £4.750.

1979 BEDFORD YLQ PLAXTON, 45 seater, choice of 2: 1-MoT 10/91 and 2 - MoT 11/91. £5,500 each.

1985 FORD TRANSTOLD ater, diesel with override, MoT 4/91. £4,250.

21/22 SEATER MERCEDES taken in part exchange against any one of the above up to £10,000 in value with cash adjustment.

All plus VAT. Full inspection facilities available.

Telephone (0494) 441976 or (0628) 483756 after hours

(11727/BE)

One only AEC 760 Horizontals Can be heard running Ring us first (0895) 674422 or

081 866 8900 Mobile: (0836) 529555/241379



(13616/AEC)

BEDFORD

1979 BEDFORD **53 SEATER** COACH DUPLE

MoT April 1990.

£7,500 ono

Tel.

Kingdom's Tours Ltd, **Tiverton, Devon** 0884 252373

(12775/BE)

1975 PLAXTON YRT

53 seat, MoT until May 1991, good condition.

£2,500 + VAT ono 1974 PLAXTON YRQ

45 seats, MoT until Dec 1990. vac.

£2.200 ono Tel. 0278 683280

45 SEATER BEDFORD PLAXTON 466

Power door, new 12 months MoT, Bristol dome, very good condition. £2,500 ono

1973 53 SEATER BEDFORD **PLAXTON 500**

Blue Series engine, Express power door, new 12 months MoT, with Telma, very good condition.

£3,000 ono

Tel. (0942) 884844 for further details

(12854/BF)

1979 OCTOBER PJK

29 seater, very good condition, new tyres etc, tested till June 1991.

£6,200 ono Tel. 0742 442467

(12901/BE)

1977 BEDFORD **PLAXTON 500**

53 seats, MoT Jan '91.

£4,000 + VAT ono Tel. (0203) 392655 or (0203) 381686.

(12787/BE)

1977

BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON SUPREME

53 seats, tested until March 1991, personalised number plate, power door.

£3,950

Telephone: 0524 701213

(12921/BE)

1977

PLAXTON PJK

29 seater, very good condition, MoT November 1990, new front tyres, owner driver.

£4.000 ono

Telephone: 0922 685246 West Midlands

(12855/RE)

1983

TURBO DUPLE DOMINANT IV

53 seater, ZF gearbox, 6 speed, express doors, Telma, tinted double glazed windows, immaculate condition inside and out, one full year's MoT, taxed.

£19,000 ono + VAT

Tel: 0642 482720 or 0642 476436

(12956/BE)

1980 BEDFORD YMT SUPREME IV

53 seater, Paramount front and rear, excellent all round condition, tested till May 1991.

£8,000 + VAT ono

Tel. 0925 221792 or 0925 226334

(12764/BE)

FOR SALE BEDFORD YMP

10 mtr, 1985, Plaxton Paramount bodywork fitted with 38 reclining seats, Telma retarder, fitted to high spec.

Armchair Passenger Transport

Tel. 081 568 8227

1974 YRT PLAXTON ELITE 53

Power door, side locker, radio/PA, S/S discs, MoT Jan 91, taxed December, clean and tidy. Sale due to update

£2,500 + VAT

SORRY, NO OFFERS

Leathers Maiden Tel. Bradley (09853) 339

(12757/RE)

RELUCTANT SALE 1950 BEDFORD O/B

PSV, MoT till May 91, excellent condition throughout, all original equipment, sliding roof, fitted roof quarter lights, won many awards.

£9,000 + VAT ono May take part exchange minibus Tel. 0704 895150

(12969/BE)

SMITHS COACHES OF TRING

have an excellent

BEDFORD/PLAXTON YMP

35 seater for sale, registered August 1982, tested April 1991.

£16.950 + VAT

Telephone: Geoff Smith on 044 2823163

(12941/BE)

1979 V YLQ DOMINANT II, 45 seater, MoT June 1991. £6,000. Tel: Walsall 0922 28625 or 23281. (12971/BE)

BEDFORD YMT 1979 PLAXTON SUPREME IV

53 seats, recent engine overhaul, clutch and brake. New trim June to seats, roof and sides. New tyres all round. Very good condition, MoT June 1991. First to see will buy. No time wasters.

£9,000 ono Tel. (0922) 31590

(12872/BE)

1977 BEDFORD DOMINANT II

53 seater. very clean condition, MoT May 1991

£5.500 ono + VAT Tel: 0753 820 212

(12841/BE)

BEDFORD YRQ DUPLE DOMINANT 1974

45 seats, tested and taxed to March 1991. Recent retrim, engine rebuilt, plus other parts fitted. In regular daily use, ideal contract vehicle.

£2,750 + VAT ono P/X 16 seater considered Cash either way Tel. (0420) 22670

(13614/RE)

1976 BEDFORD YMT

53 seats, MoT June 1991, clean tidy machine, very reliable contract motor.

£4,000

Telephone: 0203 680666

(12887/BE)

1984 YNT ZF DUPLE LASER EXPRESS

11mtr, 53 seats, side lockers, radio/pa, gangway armrests, driver's fan, owned by us from new, superb vehicle, speed limiter fitted and calibrated, MoT March 1991, must sell before new vehicle arrives. £25,500 + VAT.

Tel. 081 890 6394

(12742/BE)

1982 X REG **LEYLAND TIGER** 218

Semi-auto gearbox, Plaxton Supreme VI express, 57 seats, MoT Feb '91, radio, pa, cassette, power door, blue and maroon, mustard moquette, Bristol dome.

£24,000 + VAT ono Tel. 0734 713257

(11800/BE)

BEDFORD

1982 BEDFORD YNT

12 metre, Duple Dominant IV, 57 seats, power door, tinted windows, good condition, new engine June '89.

£14,500 + VAT

Tel. 0704 821245

(13609/BE)

DAF

Y REGISTERED DAF ALFA MB200

53 recliners, curtains, radio, PA, very clean reliable vehicle, owned by us from new.

£20.000 + VAT.

Would consider cheap part-exchange

> Tel: (0977) 791738/792106

FORD

1980 V REG FORD/PLAXTON. CHOICE OF TWO.

R1014 with Supreme IV recliners, curtains, Eberspacher, MoT November 1990.

R1114 with Supreme IV, 45 reclining seats, MoT April 1991

Both vehicles maintained from new. Full service history.

£6,500 ono + VAT each WESTBUS (UK) LTD Tel. (0233) 636001

(12305/FO)

BRISTOL

WANTED BRISTOL WANTED

One or two Bristol RELH6L/ECW, 49 seat dual purpose (not coach shell) bodies. Leyland engine preferred.

> Tel. Sheffield (0909) 562618

(12905/BR)

1973 BRISTOL RE, Eastern coachwork, semi-automatic, 48 seats, Leyland 680 engine.

1973 BRISTOL RE, Eastern coachwork, semi-automatic, 4 Gardner 180 engine. 47 coach seats,

> Both fitted with tachograph. MoT and taxed

Genuine reason for sale,

owner retiring £2,500 + VAT one each

Any trial/anytime

Tel. (0269) 823309 (S Wales)

(12833/BR)

COACHMART No 1 IN THE INDUSTRY

BOVA

1981 BOVA **EUROPA £26,000**

1983 BOVA EUROPA £28,000

Each with 53 reclining seats. in good condition and both with current MoTs. Will exchange for older vehicle.

Tel. 02406 4346 Buckinghamshire

DENNIS

1980 **DENNIS D/D**

78 seater, new MoT.

£7,000 ono

Tel. Kingdom's Tours Ltd, Tiverton, Devon 0884 252373

(12769/DENNIS)

FORD

1981 DUPLE DOMINANT II. 53 seater. £9,750 + VAT

1978 PLAXTON SUPREME III. 53 seater. £3,750 + VAT

1977 PLAXTON SUPREME III. 53 seater. £3,750 + VAT.

All vehicles are in good condition and have many extras.

No reasonable offers refused.

Johnsons (HENLEY) Ltd 0564 794794

(12879/FO)

1984

FORD R1115 SERVICE BUS

33 seater, Wadham Stringer Vanguard body, tested to June 1991, 6000cc engine, coach seats, air doors, colour cream, straight body.

£13,500 + VAT

Telephone: 0274 497218

(13610/FO)

SREG

FORD R1114 PLAXTON SUPREME MARK IV FRONT

Side lockers, power door, radio, taxed 6 months, MoT November 1991.

£5,000 + VAT

Tel: 0984 833177

1978 FORD

CAETANO

MoT January 1991, MUST BE

SEÉN, only

£4,350 ono + VAT

Tel. (0291) 625251

or night (02912) 70018

(Chepsaw, Gwent)

COACHMART

SUBSCRIPTION

STILL ONLY

£45

(12378/FO)

1979

FORD 53 SEATER PLAXTON COACH

MoT February 1991.

£5.750 ono

Telephone: KINGHAMS TOURS LTD. Tiverton, Devon.

0884 252373

(12785/FO)

LEYLAND

COACHES FOR SALE

N. Ireland operator. 1974 LEYLAND LEOPARD, 53 seater, 680 engine, Dominant body, semi-auto. £7,800.

Also LEYLAND LEOPARD 49 seater, 680 engine, Dominant body, semi-auto. £10,200.

> Both vehicles in excellent condition.

Telephone: 0693 838663

(12853/LE)

JONCKHEERE

1985 **JONCKHEERE** P599 SCANIA K112

51 seats, full executive, all usual Jonckheere extras. very good condition.

First to see will buy

£52,500 + VAT ono

Tel. Phillip Groom 071-638 5700/0293 565588

LANCASTER CITY

TRANSPORT

FOR SALE WITH REGISTRATION PLATES

ANA 2T 1978 PSU5 LEOPARD DUPLE, 52 seater coach, test 29.10.90. Available now

....£10,600

ANA 1T 1978 PSU5 LEOPARD DUPLE, 57 seater coach, test 12.12.90. Available end of September.....£11,950

Haysham Road Bus Depot. Morecambe LA3 1DD Tel. (0524) 424555

(12870/LE)

LEYLAND

1982 LEYLAND TIGER PLAXTON



Viewmaster, 51 reclining moquette seats, fitted carpet, side lockers, wheeltrim, etc. Excellent condition throughout. Ex-Fishwicks of Leyland. 2 owners only from new.

Part exchange Volvo B10M, cash either way. Must be clean.

For further details please tel: Malc Rigby (0704) 895150

(12968/LE)

1986 LEYLAND **TIGER CUB**

Optare, 33 seater bus, 4 speed, manual gearbox, new MoT

£10,950 + VAT ono

Tel. 091 389 0494 day or 091 388 5475 evenings

(13612/LEY)

MCW

NEOPLAN

SKYLINER **MERCEDES V10**

1986, 73 seats, new clutch, MoT April 1991, seven video screens, all video equipment new, toilet, servery, all usual Neoplan fittings.

Part Exchange Considered

£75,000 + VAT

Telephone: 0692 670159 (12912/NE)

SCANIA

FOR SALE

1984 12 METRE LEYLAND TIGER

248 Plaxton Paramount 3500 bodywork, 49 reclining seats, fitted with Telma retarder, cherished number plates. Sutrak air conditioning, toilet, video, drinks machine, first class condition. ARMCHAIR PASSENGER TRANSPORT.

Tel: 081 568 8227

LEYLAND

LEOPARD

FOR SALE

Semi auto service buses,

£3,000

Leopard coach, £4,000

All with tax, test and in

daily service

Tel.

0827 288822

ONE ONLY

LEYLAND NATIONAL 10MTR, very clean and tidy, new MoT Aug '91.

ALLCO

PASSENGER

VEHICLES

0895 674422

or mobile 0836 529555

(12949/LE)

(13613/LE)

1979 LEYLAND LEOPARD DUPLE

48 recliners, toilet, hot drinks, servery, TV/video, radio, PA, cassette, curtains, carpet, PP, excellent condition, MoT May '91, taxed

Consider exchange heavyweight,

Tel. (0234) 60327

(12849/LE)

MCW METRO-RIDER COACH

28 seats plus courier, first registered April 1990, all usual refinements including very large boot, change in business direction forces sale.

£34.950 + VAT

(£12,000 saving on new price)

Tel. 0785 760666

(12770/MCW)

SCANIA BERKHOFF K112

CAG gearbox, 76 seats plus 2 courier seats, 1986, toilet, fridge, hot and cold water, double glazed, low mileage, vehicle owned from new, excellent condition throughout.

£75,000

Ask for Colin or Roy Ebdon

Tel. 081 302 2908

(12925/SC)

MERCEDES

A REG

MERCEDES

21 seater, very good condition, taxed/tested, Bristol Dome, repainted in white with red stripe, new tyres.

> Maintained to a very high standard.

OFFERS

0932 254795 days or 0932 241115 eves/weekends

1983

MERCEDES

813

29 seats + courier,

coach built body with power door, colour white, MoT Jan '91.

£11,750 + VAT

or exchange for 20 seater.

Tel. Torquay

(0803) 324597

(12892/ME)

NOVEMBER 1986 D REG

SCANIA K92CR **EAST LANCS BODY**

51 seats, 24 standees, 4-speed, automatic gearbox with retarder, Webasto heating.

£40,000 + VAT Telephone: Kettlewell (Retford)

0777 860360

Contact: MR P.C. KETTLEWELL

(12786/SC)

SEDDON

1974 SEDDON, 57 seats, tested Dec 1990, good condition seats require attention, very little used. Also 1971 YRQ for parts, good engine box. Tel: 0691 659710. (12914/SC)

SEDDON PENNING VII PLAXTON SUPREME III **EXPRESS**

First licenced 1978 49 seats, reconditioned Gardner 6HLXB engine, new clutch, brakes recently relined, tested to 05/91

£6,500 ono + VAT Tel. (0258) 456316 or (0725) 52701 (12871/SD)

£15,750

53/57 seater

1980

DUPLE DOMINANT II

Leopard 680 semi auto, nice condition, Telma, MoT.

£9.500

Telephone: 0203 680666

(12888/LE)

1983 LEOPARD **SEMI-COACH**

57 seat, good condition. ideal for

excursions/contracts.

Must go this week. Possible finance available

£11,995 ono

Tel. Sheffield (0909) 562618

(12907/LE)

LEYLAND NATIONALS MARKI

Dual doors, well maintained, single decker buses.

£3,400 + VAT Tel: 04027 55895 or 081 530 5344 (try evenings)

1978/79/80

(12859/LE)

(12979/LE)

SETRA

1988 SETRAS

215 HD, 42/49 seats with full JLD galley and Pullman. Tables, if required, hot oven, 240v micro, TV, etc. Superb all round condition. Probably the smartest Setras in the UK. Executive contract loss forces sale.

Reasonable offers please

WEST COUNTRY PULLMAN (0249) 443904, (0666) 824211 (eves)

(13602/SE)

1986 SCANIA CITY BUS. Low step, Webasto, underfloor luggage. 47 seating, 22 standing, MoT March 1991. £48,000 ono. Tel: 0789 764401. (12740/SB) COACHMART SUBSCRIPTION STILL ONLY £45

VAN HOOL

CUMMINS ALIZEE H

1988, only 113,000 miles with one driver on private hirework only. This must be the best available. It is as new.

49/53 reclining seats, full spec, toilet, 2 TV/video, hot drinks, fridge, bunk, double glazing, Telma, Webasto, polished alloy wheels, test to March 1991, 13-17 mpg, 100 gallon fuel tank. Must sell – new vehicle arrived.

£73,500 NO OFFERS

Telephone: 0920 830869 or 0836 782548 anytime

(12886/VH)

DAF MB200 DKFL VAN HOOL ALIZEE

1983 (private plate), 49 recliners, toilet, video, coffee machine, cool box, driver's bunk, Continental door, MoT until April 1991.

£35,000 + VAT WHARFEDALE COACHES

Tel: 0532 504966

(11748/VH)

1983 VAN HOOL ASTRON

Private plate, 60 seats, full spec, servery, 6 video screens, good condition.

Open to offers
PART EXCHANGE CONSIDERED
Kingston Coaches,
Tel. 0935 25461
any time

(12947/VH)

2 VAN HOOL COACHES

1980, full view front Panoramics Fiat Iveco, diesel, 5 speed, 23 seats, left hand drive, fully furnished, excellent condition.

> £6,000 + VAT each Further enquiries 081 545 0253 evenings

(12927/VH/PC

VOLVO

1981 B58 VOLVO VIEWMASTER

49 seats, toilet, wired for TV and video, coffee machine, tested.

£23,000 + VAT

Tel. (0665) 720907

(11713/VO)

1977

VOLVO B58 DOMINANT I

ZF gearbox, 51 reclining seats, courier seat, power door, MoT and licence.

Tel: 087 251 0511

(12899/VO)

1975 B58 PLAXTON 12 METRE 53 SEATER

- ★ Speed limiter ★ Fridge★ Boiler ★ Full draw
- curtains ★ Wheel trims ★ Bristol dome
 - **★ VG moquette**
 - ★ Test to 29/3/91.

£9,750 + VAT ono

Tel. (0705) 503011 or (0831) 255519

(12374/V)

1984 VOLVO PLAXTON

Paramount 3500.
Executive
specification, taxed
1 year and tested 6
months.

£46,000

Telephone (0287) 51373

(12954/VO)

VOLVO B10MT PLAXTON 4000RS

67 reclining seats, toilet, double glazed, fridge, Klix drinks dispenser, TV/video, full draw curtains and blinds, carpeted. Telma retarder, reconditioned engine fitted, 12 months MoT, immaculate condition.

£75,950 + VAT ono

Telephone:
FLIGHTS COACH
TRAVEL,
BIRMINGHAM on
021 554 5232
and contact
GEOFF FLIGHT

(12894/VO)



X REG, B58 DOMINANT IV

Air overleaf suspension, Telmar, power door, tinted double glazed, 53 E type seats, recent retrim, curtains, radio P/A, MoT June 1991.

£21,000 or very near offer 051-226 1189

(12857/VO)



VOLVO

1986 (D REG) VOLVO B10M VAN HOOL S/H, TRI-AXLE SINGLE DECK



200 gallon tank, speed limiter, driver's bunk, 49 reclining seats, courier seat, driver's bunk, toilet, drinks dispenser, curtains, wired for TV/video, MoT April 1991. Ideal for carrying extra weight on shopping trips/shuttles. Excellent all round long haul coach.

£70,000 + VAT

STARLINE COACHES, LIVERPOOL (051) 428 6102

(12856/VO)

1980 VOLVO B58 PLAXTON

SUPREME, semi auto, 48 seater exec, rear toilet, drinks machine, wired for TV/video, recon gearbox and fluid flu wheel fitted this year. Private plate, MoT March 1991. £19.500 + VAT.

1977 VOLVO B58 PLAXTON

SUPREME, 57 seater, recon engine, new ZF gearbox and steering box, centre floor and retrim last year. MoT May 1991. £13,500 + VAT.

Tel: 081 845 6979 daytime 081 845 4243 nights

(12865/VO)

VOLVO B10M

Highfloor coach, 50 recliners, beautiful condition, in white, first to see will buy. Possible finance available.

£25,995 ono

Tel. Sheffield (0909) 562618

(12906/VO)

1980 **VOLVO B58 ALPHA**

53 seats, Telma, tinted windows, radio cassette, MoT March '91.

> £18,000 ono + VAT Photo available

Tel. (0203) 392655 or (0203) 381686

NOV '80 VOLVO **B58 DOMINANT**

53 seats, Telma, radio/PA, double glazing, red interior, MoT to May '91, bodywork good, running gear sound, air suspension.

£21,500 + VAT MAY '80 VOLVO **B58 VAN HOOL**

52 seats, blue interior, MoT to Nov '90, body and running gear good, air suspension.

£23,000 + VAT

TEL: (0252) 624404 (12387/VO)

VOLVO B58 VAN HOOL

50 recliners, test until February 1991.

£14.500 + VAT ono

Telephone: 0723 375229

(11733/VO)

1988 VOLVO B10M PLAXTUM 3500, Executive, toilet, drinks machine, bunk. £73,500 ono. 1984 B10M PLAXTON 3500, video, Telma, toilet, Webasto, double glazing. £50,000 ono. Daisy Bus Service (Ermine International), Brigg 0652 52481 ask for Nigel. (12908/VO) 1988 VOLVO B10M PLAXTON 3500,

1973 VOLVO PLAXTON

53 seater. MoT March '91. Reconditioned 5 speed box fitted. Transportable telephone

included

£8,000 ono Finance can be arranged (Subject to status)

For more details tel. Nigel Fox on: 0752 780341

1978

VOLVO B58 PLAXTON VIEWMASTER MARK IV

Private plates, MoT February 1991, good condition throughout.

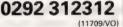
Telephone: 0222 471614

(12955/VO)

1982 VOLVO B10M PADANE

Private plates, 49 recliners plus courier seat, central sunken toilet, radio/pa, wired for TV/video and drinks disp. MoT Feb '91, choice of two.

£22,000 ono Finance arranged Subject to status Dodds Coaches Ltd





VOLVO B58

1977

DOMINANTI

ZF gearbox, 51 reclining

seats, courier seat, power

door, MoT plus licence.

Tel.

087 251 0511 (11753/VO)

1980

VOLVO B58 IRIZAR

6-speed, ZF, retrimmed 49 reclining seats, 12 months MoT WC, coffee machine, driver's bunk, continental rear door, courier seat and Telma. Repainted in two pack white.

Part Exchange Welcome

£21,950

Finance can be arranged (subject to status)

For more details telephone NIGEL FOX on

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APRIL 1989

VOLVO B10M

MARK III

PLAXTON

Paramount 3500 (new model).

In excellent condition, 49/53

reclining seats, centre

demountable toilet, continental

door, aircraft style lockers. Some

summer and winter work with

vehicle if required.

(12931/VO)

1985

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Low driver, 53 recliners, tinted windows, curtains, courier seat, radio cassette, MoT October 1990.

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£79,000 VAT Selwyns Travel Ltd,

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Telephone: 0928 564515

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BRISTOL VRT/SLE 1974-1979

Most with MoT. Prices from £2,500

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Some with MoT. Prices £4,000-£5,500

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To view contact: **Derek Smith**

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Original number plates, tidy condition, PSV and Class 5.

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(11766/MB)

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With Reeve Burgess, 33 seat coach body, large boot, side lockers, luggage racks, soft trim, moquette centre stripe, seat tracking, radio cassette. £34,750 + VAT

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With 21 seats, van conversion, large boot, luggage racks, soft trim, radio cassette. £19,750 + VAT

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(12890/MB)

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1981, 21 retrimmed coach seats, curtains and soft trim to racks and roof, exterior white, unwritten. MoT to September 1991, very good condition throughout.

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REG TRANSIT (12	, new conver	rsion, soft	trim

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COACHBUILT HAWK 811D, 25 seats, plus 8 standees, luxury.

FORD TRANSIT DIESEL TURBO, 20 seats, power door.

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(12371)

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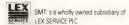
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1984 LEYLAND TIGER 245 HYD PLAXTON PARAMOUNT 3200 EXPRESS: 51 recliners	
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12 TO 35 SEATS	

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1988 TALBOT PULMAN EXPRESS, 20 seats, very nice condition, long
MoT, substantial savings on new£12,500
1987 Bedford YNT Paramount 3,200, owned by us from new, power
door, vgc, MoT£39,000
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1983 Tiger 245 Paramount 3200, 53, express, vgc, MoT£28,500
1983 Tiger 245 Paramount 3200 Exec, vgc, MoT '91£29,000
1982 Volvo B58 Dominant IV 12 Metre, 53 reclining seats, P/D,
MoT£23,500
1982 Leopards, S/A, ECW, long MoTs, nice condition£11,750
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(12880/UN)



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(Proudmutual Group)

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1977 BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON SUPREME, 53 coach seats, MoT April 1991, £4,500

2 1977 BEDFORD YLQ PLAXTON SUPREME, Exp 45 coach seats, MoT January-February 1991, £4,500 each

1977 LEYLAND LEOPARD DUPLE DOMINANT, Exp 53 coach seats, MoT October 1990, £6,000

4 1977 LEYLAND LEOPARD DUPLE DOMINANT, Exp (1) 49 coach seats, (3) 49 service seats, MoT August/September 1991, £7,000 each

3 1985 BEDFORD YNV 500 TURBO DUPLE LAZERS, 57 coach seats, MoT February-March-April 1991, £26,000 each

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(12864/LIN)

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1983 DAF MB200 DKTL

53 reclining seats, radio/pa, power door, £34,950

1979 AEC 760 PLAXTON 51 reclining seats, new test, £12,950

1978 BEDFORD

29 seater, Plaxton, new test, £6,950

Consider 16 or 21 seater in part exchange

The above maintained to our usual high standard but are surplus to current requirements

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1976 PJK, 29 STR DUPLE RECON, 5 1976 PJR, 29 SIR DUPLE RECON, a speed box, cyl head, good condition, MoT April. £3,850. 1985 C TRANSIT DORMOBILE, 16 STR, white, unlettered, 21,000 miles only, as new. £6,000. Tel: 0237 441 233. (12928/UN)

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1979 DENNIS DOMINATOR, Double Deck, 74 seats, MoT Nov '90
1978 FORD DOMINANT II, 53 seats, MoT Oct '90£3,500
1978 FORD DOMINANT II, 53 seats, MoT June '91£3,500
1974 BEDFORD DOMINANT I, 53 seats, MoT April '91£1,000

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57 seats, 1983 Y Reg, owned by us since new, excellent condition£26,000

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PLAXTON LEOPARD 680 MK4 1979 T REG

DUPLE DOMINANT II

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53 seats, MoT Feb 1991, private plate extra if req£3,500

BEDFORD DUPLE DOMI 1974

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New MoT.....

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All Mercedes 2 years warranty or 200,000 kilometres

NEW MERCEDES \$14D, 33 lux, power swivel door, large boot, full spec, in stock, MERCEDES 814D, 33, armrests, Man door, stock. NEW MERCEDES 811, 33 + 6, manual or auto. NEW MERCEDES 811, 29 coach spec, 14 days. NEW MERCEDES 709, m or auto, 25 + 10 standees MEW MERCEDES 811, 29 + 13 standees, auto. NEW MERCEDES 709, 29 + standees, stock.

NEW MERCEDES 6090, 26 seats, large boot, stock.

NEW MERCEDES 6090, 24 coach seats, power door. NEW TRANSIT 20, power door, power steering, air

NEW TRANSIT 16, high roof, diesel, coach seats. NEW TRANSIT 16, diesel, 5-speed, side door, stock. NEW TRANSIT, 15 seats, 5-speed, diesel/petrol, stock. NEW TRANSIT 15, diesel, automatic, stock. NEW TRANSIT 14, diesel, 5-speed, luxury, stock. NEW TRANSIT 16, diesel, power door, coach seats + 5 standees, luxury or service spec, stock.

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NEW MERCEDES 7090, 27 + uf w/chair lift, 3 weeks.
NEW MERCEDES 500, 18 seats or 4 w/chairs and lift.
NEW MERCEDES 300, high roof, 12 and 14 seats, stock.
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89 MERCEDES 609, power door, 24 coach spec. 89 G TRANSIT, 14 PSV, low mileage.

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#6 TRANSIT DIESEL, 14 high back PSV. #7 E MERCEDES #11 TURBO, 27 coach seats

■ OPTARE CUB, auto, 33 power door + standees. ■ D TRANSIT DIESEL, 12, PSV, new shape.

86 BEDFORD MIDI, 15 seat, petrol, low mileage. 36 DATSUN DIESEL, crew bus, high roof, low

SE IVECO CAETANO, 24, air door, tested. 85 TALBOT 12, PSV, petrol.

84 DAF JONCKHEERE MB200, exec, 49+ video. 84 VAN HOOL ASTRON, 60 seats, full spec. 84 MERCEDES, 12, PSV, high roof.

84 B TRANSIT DIESEL, 15 seats, non PSV. 83 TRANSIT, 16, petrol, high back, PSV, £1,500.

83 VOLVO BERKHOF EXEC, full spec, new test. 83 DODGE REEBUR, diesel, auto, PSV, 17 seats 83 LEYLAND CUB, 21 seats, power door. 83 MERCEDES 508, 19 seats, boot, PSV. 82 TRANSIT 12, LWB, PSV, petrol, o/d.

82 MERCEDES, 19, boot, tested. 81 DAF 2000 EXEC, 48 + TV, Alpha, new test.

81 VOLVO DUPLE II, 53 large seats 81 PLAXTON DAF, integral, 52 recliners.

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75 FORD DUPLE N, 35 seats, tested. 79 BEDFORD PLAXTON, 53, tested.

78 FORD PLAXTON, 53, new test. 76 BRISTOL, 43, express doors, testing. 76 BEDFORD SPACE CAR, 49 recliners, no test. 75 BEDFORD, 29, no test, offers.

75 FORD, 45, seat, Plaxton, new test. 75 VOLVO, 57 seats, Duple, 5-speed. 75 DAIMLER FLEETLINE DD. Gardner. 76 seats.

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1979 FORD R1114 DUPLE DOMINANT II. (53), re-upholstered. MoT May '91, all white. £7,000 1978 (T) FORD PLAXTON SUPREME, (53), re-uphoistered, very clean, power door and radio, MoT Oct '90.

1978 BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON SUPREME EXPRESS, (53), power doors, McT July 1991. £5,950 1977 BEDFORD YMT PLAXTON SUPREME, (53), MoT November, engine requires attention

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(11332/UN)

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1982 EXECUTIVE MERCEDES
JONCKHEERE, 49 seater, WC, cont door, MERCEDES drinks, fridge, bunk, radio, video, carpet etc, long MOT.

1985 DAF BOVA CALYPSO, 49 recliners, cont door, curtain, radio/PA etc, long

1973 VOLVO PLAXTON, 49 seater, p/door, side lockers, radio etc, long MoT.....£5,500

Tel. (0837) 810257/810597

PA considered

(11791/UN)

1986 DAF MR200 DKFL LAG GAL-AXY, 53 reclining seats and courier, MoT January 1991, tax December 1990, TV/video, coffee ma-chine, demountable toilet, negotiable extras, bargain price £46,000

VOLVO DUPLE **B10M** CARIBBEAN, 49 reclining seats and courier, full exec with ferry lift, January 1991, 1991, bargain .. £38,000 + VAT 1982 BEDFORD YNT PLAXTON SUPREME VI, 53 new seats and interior trim, new engine fitted 18 months, taxed January 1991, MoT February 1991 £14,000 + VAT 1981 BEDFORD YNT PLAXTON SUPREME VI, registration number TRY 6X, 42 reclining seats, WC and servery, MoT November 1990, non runner, needs engine, hence price£6,800 + VAT

1975 BEDFORD YRQ PLAXTON PANORAMA ELITE III, 45 seats, MoT November 1990£1,500 + VAT

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rear surken toilet, continental door, radio cassette and PA, wired for TV and video, underfloor lockers, driver's bunk, double glazed, curtains. £37,500. 1981 (PRIVATE PLATE) VOLVO B10M

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53 seats, MoT Jan '91. £8,500

1978 BEDFORD DOMINANT II

53 seats, MoT March '91. £6,500

1976 BEDFORD PLAXTON SUPREME

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1977 BEDFORD DUPLE, 53 seater£5,000 £3,750

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1979 YMT, 53 str, Dominant II

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1977 LEOPARD, 53 str, Dominant Express, retrim, new gangway

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(12883/UN)

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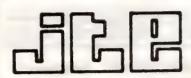
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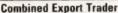
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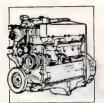
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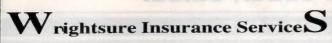
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